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WILMINGTON, N. C., JAN. 28, 1865.

Wilmington Journal.

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DISSENSIONS AT RICHMOND.

[illegible] Why or wherefore Yankee [illegible] rise have of late [illegible] question the [illegible] may not be able to [illegible] but they have [illegible] so is a fact that all [illegible] to which [illegible] can fail to attach [illegible] I cordially [illegible] and kindness that [illegible] history of the last four years leaves [illegible] they have been in their [illegible] for the re-establishment [illegible] they are provided with no [illegible] which the first proclamation [illegible] the promulgation—the Yankees claim [illegible] question.

A Richmond contemporary, as well as some other [illegible] think that there may be something [illegible] yet to be [illegible] to unders and— [illegible] a serious weakness on [illegible] —a tendency to break down, artful [illegible] It may be [illegible] of the British [illegible] hawk— [illegible] in the various lane, where [illegible] feeling disinclined of him that he should [illegible] —(with a frosty look) he would [illegible] he laughed back like [illegible] and forgot after- [illegible] successful commander who [illegible] to be difficult in case he had to [illegible] himself," said the [illegible] to back out. I would [illegible] attempt to *only five miles* more would have been [illegible] provide a certain number of isolated man- [illegible] which could not have resisted the fire that sub- [illegible] fire of Fisher. A line of redoubts between [illegible] of the Sound and Sugar Loaf could only have [illegible] barrier between our town and our fort. [illegible] troops were brought up to town; that [illegible] attack was in the nature of a surprise, and [illegible] could not be returned in time to meet [illegible] It is like across the Peninsula was [illegible] it could have been made in the time that inter- [illegible] between the first and second attack. The ene- [illegible] stepping in between our cavalry pickets, and are [illegible] between us and the fort before we know it. [illegible] that if works were wanted on the Peninsu- [illegible] was abundant time to have made them.

[illegible] neither time nor inclination to go far- [illegible] subject at present. We have never been [illegible] who have harshly animadverted upon [illegible] Bragg, and have no sympathy with districts [illegible] invaded in by the Charleston *Mercury* and [illegible] Still we cannot sympathize with [illegible] which characterizes a portion of our cor- [illegible] We think there has been too much [illegible] and it can do no good, and may do [illegible] Two wrongs do not make a right, al- [illegible] the greater.

[illegible] very respectfully to human nature we [illegible] the absent have no friends. This we feel [illegible] still we think it would work better [illegible] to postpone discussion upon these sub- [illegible] some of the absent can return. Nothing is [illegible] by controversy.

Daily Journal, 27th.

The Confederacy differs from most folks in this much [illegible] it would do her much good to have one FOOTE in the grave.

The Augusta papers say that, for the present at least General Dick Taylor succeeds General J. B. Hood in command of the army of Tennessee. Taylor appears to be very highly valued out in the South-west. The change is regarded as a good one.

For the Journal.

The Fall of Fort Fisher—General Bragg—Major General Whiting—The Navy, etc.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I have to day read the article in your paper signed "JUSTICIA," and I have recently read an article on the same subject in the *Charleston Mercury*, (that quintessence of all spite against our noble President and all who are supposed to be his friends,) and also knew well the localities of the late conflict and disaster to our arms, and, though not least, I know something of the "Kentucky campaign" of General Bragg. For all these reasons I ask your attention to a few remarks upon these various subjects.

First then.—Why did Fort Fisher so soon fall into the hands of the enemy?

I will not undertake to answer in *full*, or to give *all* the causes for this disaster, but say briefly,—it was because of the *terrible fire* of 700 guns of the United States Navy, and the gallant charge of the land forces that followed up the work of the awful fire of the Navy. I am satisfied that no officer, of those who planned or constructed Fort [illegible] had any just conception of the *imminently* of that fire, or of its *enormous range, before the first attack was made.*

Nothing in the way of a fortification, short of an inclosed work with case-mated batteries, could withstand it, nor could such a work have been expected, to resist successfully such an attack by those, if any, who knew its tremendous power.

Ships firing on the open and deep sea, giving seaboard to one or a few hundred war steamers to deliver their fire at a known point; and, with the great improvements in gunnery since 1861 these ships could lay off beyond the range of our best *Confederate* guns, and rain such a shower of projectiles, so rapidly, and ransack a "fire of hell" upon the "rebel" quarters, that nothing short of case-mates (bomb proofs) could enable men to remain at the guns, ready for service at any moment.

A few guns on the *land front*, with men at them, would, in all probability, have effectually repelled the "boarders" or "storming party," and saved the fort.—Why were there no casemate guns in the flanks for the very purpose of the enemy.—No one in my opinion, dreamed of the terrific fire. Engineers and commander thought men could stand it, if they had sufficient *nerve*. Nerve was not the only thing wanted,—it was armour—"iron-clad" and also to live under such a fire. I mean, of course, men in casemate batteries.

I am sure I have told you in *the main* why Fort Fisher fell. I will now give other reasons:

There were no fortifications between the Fort and the head of the Sound to prevent a landing of the enemy, as it has always been *proper* there should have been. There was no system of redoubts across the peninsula from the head of the Sound to Sugar Loaf, to prevent the enemy from passing down this peninsula to where it was so narrow that the fire of his ships could protect him, and not only cover the whole strip of land, but half way across the river inside. Had this been done, troops could not have been landed between the fort and the head of the Sound, and if they had landed anywhere north of these "redoubts" or "rifle pits," they would all have to be carried by the bayonet before the troops could approach Fort Fisher, and this so far up the peninsula that ships could not assist the repelling or annoy our troops while the attack was made.

The attack was of course made on the land force by General Bragg's troops, *before* the enemy *entrenched* themselves, (undertaking it to be answered by a Court Martial of a timid Inspector cavalry officers in charge of pickets.—The rest that rest for the present.

Has only Confederate General, such as Lee, Johnston, Beauregard or Bragg, ever been defeated by unfaithful officers—those who were *behind time*, or the like? How was it with Lee at Gettysburg? Did or did not Stuart fail to keep him advised of the approach of the enemy? How of General Polk at Perryville? and again at Chicamauga—did he not, when ordered? Why did the Confederates fail to reach Chattanooga the last day of the Chicamauga battle? Simply because some order was *wilfully disobeyed*.

Have our readers Kinglake, read the official history of the "Kentucky campaign," under General Bragg? If you have not, do not, for the sake of justice to a son of the old North State, say that bad luck attends the arrival of Gen. Bragg at any place, or, as the *Charleston Mercury* says he is "a bird of ill-omen," and quote Edgar Poe's Raven on him.

I assert here without fear of contradiction by those who *know* the facts, that the Kentucky campaign was more successful than either of the campaigns into Maryland or Pennsylvania under Gen. Lee.

It was such a complete defeat to the Yankees that they had to escape in haste from Corinth to the Ohio River, and it resulted in the removal of one of their best Generals—Buell—from his command.

The fruits of it were clothing and food for the entire army under Bragg, consisting of the corps under Kirby Smith, General Polk and Humphrey Marshall, for a long time, and four million pounds of meat sent to General Lee at Richmond.

Why did Bragg fall back after the *victory* at Murfreesboro? I answer:—Because Rosecrans was largely reinforced. Why did Lee fall back after the battles of Sharpsburg and Gettysburg? Because he was virtually defeated. Yet who has abused Lee? I do not, by this allusion. He is a Virginian and not to be abused. He is a descendant of the "Cavaliers or Huguenots," and the Charleston Mercury and Richmond Enquirer and Examiner would be unable to find any fault with him, even if he was only half the general he is. But the "poor piney woods boy,"—a mere "tarheel" of North Carolina, how could *he* dare to command an army? Of course it must fail. Did South Carolina troops ever falter? Did Hagood's 600 men that reached Fort Fisher *falter!!* Ask those inside. I do not know. The *Mercury* says they did all the fighting, and the artillery troops gave way at all points. But then the artillery were only "piney woods tarheels." It was not to be expected of them to fight.

Bragg fell back to Chicamauga before superior forces, but there he *fought* and gained one of the most important victories of this war, and yet who knows it? Even a North Carolina newspaper says he is "unlucky." He may be, but his *good* far outweighs his *bad* luck. Judged by the standard—*success*—Sidney Johnson fell back and fell back, and finally gained a victory at Shiloh. From this point Beauregard fell back to Tupelo, and yet who *now* says they are not good generals?

Joe Johnston "fell back" and "fell back," and *never* fought Sherman, and yet few say he is a bad general. Look at the vote in Congress for his restoration to duty. He, too is a Virginian—*the best blood*.

Bragg lost the battle of Missionary Ridge after the Government had ordered away *one-third* of his army to Knoxville, and the enemy had received an increase to theirs of a like number, and all Bragg's victories are forgotten.—This was his fault, not the fault of Government—but in Joe Johnston's case—*he* falls back, because the Government does not reinforce him!

Why General Whiting was superseded in the supreme command here is not necessary for me to say. We all know that with all his talents and ability he did no enjoy the confidence of many of the people, or of the government of North Carolina. Why this was so, or whether the reasons assigned were just or not, we need not discuss here, as he has not been assailed on the subject of the fall of Fort Fisher. He fought bravely and well to the last, we are told, and I believe, and General Bragg has highly complimented him on his skill in the construction of Fort Fisher and other defences at the mouth of the Cape Fear. He is a meritorious officer. No one questions this but the result of this late conflict *could not have been different had he been in command*.

Such is the opinion of those who are amongst his best friends. Then why quarrel about his supersedure in command. He commanded where *his works were to be defended* and *tested*, and when his services were most valu

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL,

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEB. 2, 1865.

PEACE RUMORS

Have been abroad for some days, and have been eagerly seized upon by the people.

That we all desire peace is too evident to be concealed—too natural and proper to be denied. We *do* desire it earnestly. Is it at hand? Upon what are the present rumors founded?

First then, upon the nature of things. It is reasonable to suppose that the people of the United States, as well as those of the Confederacy, are tired of this terribly devastating and exhausting contest. The moral feeling of the whole world is shocked by its continuance, and, possibly the patience of the world is becoming exhausted by the suffering entailed upon whole populations by some of its incidents. All these furnish general reasons for supposing that some effort would be made to come to an accommodation. But these are simply reasons why such a thing might be. What evidences are there that such efforts have been made, or are in train of being made?

In all protracted wars, and especially in all wars of the character of this now waging on the American continent, rumors, surmises, efforts, frequently unfounded, frequently futile, always precede actual negotiations.—These rumors, shapeless in form and mysterious in origin, very often foreshadow coming events with an accuracy almost prophetic. Such rumors are now abroad But such rumors have been abroad before, and have resulted in nothing. So may these. The present rumors, so far as we can see, derive their significance from the fact that Francis P. Blair, Senior, the right-hand man of Lincoln and Seward, paid a visit to Richmond some time since, under flag of truce, ostensibly to look after some papers alleged to have been taken from his house near Washington during the last advance of our forces in that direction. This was his ostensible object, but it is certain that his real object was to sound the Confederate authorities. At any rate he did have an interview with President Davis, private, but perfectly unofficial, as Blair was clothed with no powers or official character, but was understood to know the views and possess the confidence of the Washington government. No doubt Mr. Blair obtained Mr. Davis' views and most likely carried with him to Washington a written minute of these views, made by Mr. Davis himself. At Washington he has long interviews with the heads of government, especially Mr. Lincoln. It is to be presumed that he sets the facts before them, and makes them acquainted with the views of the Confederate government. Last week Mr. Blair made a second visit to Richmond, rumor attributing to that visit various motives and objects, but all of a public character, the most reasonable statement being that he brought with him a programme or proposition from Lincoln for the appointment of commissioners on behalf of the Confederate States to negotiate a settlement of the difficulties existing between the parties, and offering any such commissioners appointed by the Confederate States a safe conduct to Washington and back All this seems to receive confirmation from the telegraphic statement that Mr Hunter, of Virginia, Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, and Mr. Campbell, of Alabama, had been appointed commissioners, and started today for Washington.

Thus far we are on safe ground, and can pretty plainly see our way. A point has been reached to which previously no approach had been made. A communication has been opened between the belligerent parties, with the avowed object of trying to negotiate a peace; but until we know whether any *basis* has been agreed upon, we cannot say whether even the first real step has been taken towards the accomplishment of the ostensible object. It is contended, with some force, that Mr. Blair, at his first interview with President Davis was put in possession of his views, and with the position of the Confederacy, and that there would have been no use in his coming again with any programme that did not concede a *basis* more or less in accordance with these views. It is also contended that gentlemen of the character and position of Messrs. Hunter, Stephens and Campbell would not consent to go on to Washington as commissioners unless upon the assurance that they would be met on some ground upon which they could open negotiations, without derogation to the honor and independence of their government.—Nor, indeed, can it be supposed that the Confederate government would send them upon any such mission without such assurance first given. All this, however, is predicated upon the assumption that these gentlemen have an *official* character, not only conferred by their own government, but recognized by the Lincoln government. In regard to all this, we are left in the dark. We confess we have very serious doubts. We fear Lincoln will take the ground that Buchanan did. He may offer to receive them, not as Commissioners, but as eminent citizens of Virginia, Georgia and Alabama. All this will soon be known, for that position on his part, and we much apprehend it, will put a stop to the whole matter. We do not see that their position as Commissioners is recognized by the appointment of similar Commissioners to greet them on the part of the Lincoln government. This may have been done, however.

Has Lincoln suddenly concluded to lower his tone, and if so, why?

It would be sheer folly to attempt to conceal from ourselves or others that the advantages of the military situation are decidedly with him. That recently the balance of success has been largely in his favour. *Apparently* he has the ball at his own foot, and that he has it *absolutely* is no doubt the firm conviction of a large proportion of his own people. If the propositions he is willing to make—the *basis* upon which he is willing to negotiate, should be at all admissable by the Southern people, we must attribute it to causes operating from the outside. We have not been able to extort these concessions from his arms, and we know him too well to expect them from his love or his generosity.—If things should come around so as to meet our wishes, we may rest assured that the wiley Seward is trimming his sails to meet an approaching storm; that he has had an intimation of a course of action to be adopted at an early day by the Western European powers, and that he wishes to anticipate them—perhaps to outbid them, perhaps to secure the Confederacy for an ally instead of an enemy in some great struggle fast approaching.

We make these suggestions merely as surmises. We can account for any lowering of tone on the part of Lincoln in no other way. Unless there be some foreign pressure—some cause in operation unknown to us to urge Lincoln to make advances, then these advances are a snare and a trap, intended to create false hopes and thus weaken our people by exciting divisions amongst them. These things cannot be too well guarded against. All our hearts bound at the thought of peace, but they all shrink back from the suspicion of dishonor. Should our Commissioners, on arriving at Washington, consent to enter upon negotiations, then we may rest assured that all is well, for they will not take a dishonorable or dishonoring step. We trust that the *basis* is already settled. If that is so, the rest will follow. If that is *not* so, then *nothing* is done, and we are just as much at sea as ever. The Richmond papers appear to be as much in the dark about these things as their readers, that is to say, they were so on Wednesday—the latest dates we have. The Charleston Courier attaches some importance to them. So do we, but not much. The Richmond brokers, (and the pocket nerve is the most sensitive of all) certainly have an increased respect for Confederate funds and securities.

We can only "trust in the Lord and keep our powder dry." We cannot help hoping and wishing, but we must base no calculations upon these rumors nor in any way relax our efforts. We repeat, they may be only a snare.

There can be little doubt but that the developements of military power and military endurance upon this continent have astonished not only the people of Europe but the people of America themselves. The United States Navy has also swelled into formidable proportions, whilst its armament is of the most fearfully effective character. A terrible naval and military power has arisen.

But while this is so, and while it has taught European powers caution in interfering in American quarrels it is evident that the very efforts required to evoke this power have had the effect of depriving its possessors of the chance of using it immediately to advantage.—Crippled finances declining trade, fighting population exhausted or unwilling, all the burdens of a four years' war hang over the Lincoln government, and would paralyze their hands in any fight with a fresh and unexhausted power like England or France, and still more so with both combined. It is thus that with all their assumed bravado, and real power the Yankee government may well shrink from risking a collision with any of the maritime European powers which would sweep the last vestige of their commerce from the ocean, which would embarrass their recruiting by cutting off the foreign emigration which has supplied so much food for powder, and which would finally render public bankruptcy an inevitable occurrence.

For these reasons, most probably, the intimation of foreign intervention might, at this time, be all-powerful with the Lincoln government. Even the fear of a foreign collision might induce the Lincoln government to attempt to patch up some sort of accommodation with the South. Without some such impelling motive for action, Lincoln will make no advances upon which the least value can be placed.

Such threatening manifestations from abroad are not wanting. The U. S. Senate has flatly refused to recognize Maximillian as Emperor of Mexico, and thus thrown the gauntlet down to France, or at least to Louis Napoleon, who is France. The reciprocity treaty with Canada has been abrogated and notice has been given to Great Britain of the intended abrogation of that provision of the boundary treaty which limits the number of armed vessels and guns maintained by either power upon the lakes, and the Spring will see these great inland oceans swarming with war vessels of both powers. The plot thickens. It has not thickened to please us, so that we need experience no sense of responsibility. But if the jealousies or quarrels of others tend to hasten our deliverence from the horrors of war, why, so much the better for us. France did not acknowledge the United States out of any abstract love for the struggling Colonies, but on the contrary, out of feelings of hostility to England, and from a desire to accomplish the dismemberment of the British Empire. So it may turn out in this case. God send it. Talk as we will, the revolution commenced in '76 was pretty hard pressed when French assistance came, and men desponded much more than they do now.—Washington and his compeers hailed foreign help. Is it any disgrace for us to wish for it?

TO-MORROW.

Sunday is fast becoming a marked day in the annals of this town, as well as of the country at large. On Sunday, December 25th, 1864—Christmas Day, the guns of the enemy, booming from over fifty vessels, disturbed the solemnity of a solemn Christian festival, and mingled in sad discord with the sounds of prayer and praise which ascended from the Churches in our midst.

On Sunday, January 15th, 1865, the united naval and military force of the expedition against Wilmington engaged in fierce hand to hand conflict with the gallant defenders of Fort Fisher from half-past three until 10, P. M., losing one thousand of their own men, and disabling or killing several hundreds of ours, celebrating the resurrection of their Savior by a carnival of death, only exceeded in extent, and hardly equalled in violence by the greatest struggles of this or any other war.

For a time the cloud hangs silent in the sky, and the lightnings slumber, but we can not tell how soon the storm may again burst upon us. Sunday has been a favorite day. It will behoove us to-morrow to watch as well as to pray.—*Daily Journal 28th.*

If the telegram from Richmond is correct, we hardly think that Blair's mission to that city is likely to accomplish much. If he simply came to find out on what terms the Confederate States would agree to re-construct, he might as well have staid at home. But then street rumor may not be correctly represent the object of Mr. Blair's second visit, as, it appears to us, he must have learned enough upon his first to have convinced him that that alone would not tend to effect anything towards peace.

It is something that parties have found and are willing to employ a *medium*. All are wearied and willing to stop. If so the most unpromising beginnings may produce substantial results.

Daily Journal, 28th.

The Raleigh *Confederate* of the 26th comes out in mourning for the death of Mr. A. M. Gorman, one of its editors, which took place on Tuesday night, the 24th instant.

Mr. Gorman was 51 years of age, a practical printer, a good writer, and a worthy citizen. He was a native of Raleigh, where he served his time under Joseph Gales, of the *Register*. Before being connected with the *Confederate* he had published the *Spirit of the Age* for many years.

Sherman seems resolved to obtain some sort of popularity in Savannah. He has put down whiskey to three cents a drink and bread to five cents a loaf.

The murder is out. People drinking that kind of whiskey could not be expected to do otherwise than "take the oath," or any number of oaths. The bread is a better idea.

Hobson's Choice.—The New York *Tribune* says that "should Wilmington hold out against the forces now in its vicinity, it will become an easy prey of Sherman, while if it surrenders before he approaches it, there is no longer a temptation for him to turn aside in his march to Raleigh." It seems that we are between the devil and the deep sea.

Fire.—Just as we went to press, at one o'clock this afternoon, a fire broke out in a lot of cotton, on the wharf opposite the Custom House. There are not many hundred bales, but the flames are still raging as we write. A strong west wind prevails.

Later.—The flames have been subdued. The cotton will mostly be consumed. The Engines are at work.

Daily Journal, 28th.

There has been no armistice declared at or near Richmond or at any point along the opposing lines, that we know of. There certainly was not at Richmond as late as Wednesday last. On the contrary the heavy booming of guns came up from the lines, especially in the vicinity of Dutch Gap, where poor Butler dug his ditch. The telegraph shows that there was heavy firing along the lines at Petersburg yesterday.

THE DISEASE OF DEPRESSION.

The above is the complaint from which our people are now most apt to suffer, and the effects of which are most to be dreaded. If we can only maintain the firm undaunted front with which we have so long confronted the enemy, there can be few fears for the final result.

To combat this depression is the duty of every patriot. To deny its existence or ignore the causes which have given rise to it would be folly, and worse than folly.

We *have* met with disasters We may meet with more. Yet we still live. We will still live, survive, flourish, if we only hold on. Things have not always been well managed, but in what state or country, or during what period or age of the world were things always well managed? If we are to say that the cause is lost because we have met with disasters, or because there has been occasional mismanagement, then we ought never to have taken up the cause at all, since occasional disaster is incident to all wars, and frequent mismanagement is inseperable from all human affairs, whether in war or peace.

Depend upon it, the enemy does not think so meanly of our condition as some of our own croakers do; and that he does not, begins already to be apparent, and will soon be much more apparent. We dislike most the kind of croaking and despondency that comes from those who are thereto stimulated by fears for their property, especially property accumulated while the life-blood of the nation has been pouring out like water—while the poor have been made destitute, and moderate livers made worse than poor.

With the soldier in the field the case is different.—He has indeed had a long and a hard seige of it. He has borne labors and privations, and still bears them more cheerfully than the home croakers bear the prospect of parting with some of their queerly got wealth. But there is a limit to human endurance, and the war-worn veteran sighs for the comforts of home and the enjoyments of peace. Both, we honestly believe, are near at hand, and they will be the sweeter and dearer when enjoyed in honor and independence. Yet a little longer and the goal will be won. We know that those who have nobly given their all to the country will not now sacrifice the reward of all their labors by stopping short of the object they set out to attain. That would be to be false to themselves—to their past lives—to their future years—to their ancestry, and to their posterity.

They will *not* be thus false. They will persevere to the end. And if there be a resource in the country it ought to be freely used for the support of the army.—If there be a nerve it ought to be fully strained in efforts to provide for the comfort and efficiency of our soldiers. Now, less than ever before, or perhaps ever again, ought there to be any holding back of anything. What we give we give to ourselves. If the enemy takes it, he takes it forever, and uses is for our destruction.

Men of thought—men of speech—men of writing—men of action—all men who have their country's interest at stake owe it to that country to combat this disease of depression which is laying hold on the country, and sapping the vitals of its power both at home and in the army.

PROVISIONS—THE CURRENCY.—THE BLOCKADE.—PEACE RUMORS, &C.

Tuesday morning we strolled down to the market, not like a roaring lion, but still seeking what was to be devoured. We found a fine supply of fat poultry at $4 per pound for chickens and $4 50 for turkeys. At one cart $5 was asked for turkeys, but those at $4 50 struck us as being quite as good.

Beef and pork were in proportion, and in everything the change from the occasion of our last visit—the week of the fall of Fisher, was refreshing to a man with bowels to feel for himself or other hungry individuals. Then poultry was $8 a $10 and other things in proportion, being more than double what they are now, and still they are failing. This fall is mainly due to the rapid appreciation of our money. It is said that sales have been made at Richmond at 21 for 1; here, week before last men paid as high as 100 for 1. Some folks have got bit, *we* think. We do not know that our feelings are much hurt. At any rate, that is their business not ours

Some attribute the rapid fall in gold to the closing of the blockade running demand for it. There is no longer an outlet, and so there is no longer a market.—Perhaps this may account for some part of the fall, but only for some. There must be other causes at work.—Eightly or wrongly a certain amount of weight is attached to the peace movements so much talked of. In this we find the main solution of the fall in the price of gold, a fall which is progressive and is not yet arrested. We have already given our views in regard to these rumours, and we have since found nothing either to contradict or to corroborate these views. We must await developements. Further speculations can only tend to confuse.

We do not know what to make of the mysterious givings out about the approaching Fourth of March which is supposed to mark an important crisis in the relations of Lincolndom with foreign powers. That period is set by some as the appointed day for the recognition of the Confederacy, on the ground that Lincoln will then have filled out the term for which he was constitutionally elected President of the United States, and that on the fourth of March he will enter upon a term to which he has been elected by the votes of only a certain number of States, the rest not voting nor being allowed to vote. Therefore say they, Lincoln will be recognized simply as President of those States which participated in his election, and the Richmond government will be recognized as the representative of an independent Confederacy.

Well, the fourth of March is only thirty-two or thirty-three days off, and when it comes we shall see what it brings. We really think all the above theorising is altogether too fine spun. We simply mention it as a matter of curiosity.

If the Richmond *Sentinel* is correct, and we suppose it is, the so-called commissioners have really no official character, and unless something else has passed, then the public are aware of the whole affair amounts to nothing. No basis is agreed upon and no real progress made.

The fact that some attempt has been made, may indicate something, but so far the attempt itself is so intangible, so informal, so wholly nugatory, that really if anything comes out of it, it will be in contravention of one of the primary axioms of philosophy which declares that out of nothing, nothing can be made. The commissioners, if they do get through, will not even have the pleasure of trying some of that whiskey that Abraham brought with him from Springfield, for we doubt if any of them properly appreciates old rye.

Yesterday passed in perfect quiet. No sound of war to disturb the Sabbath stillness which seemed to float upon the frosty air. To-day the weather is pleasant, but still frosty, though less severely so than for the past week. We think there has been more frosty weather this season than for many seasons back.

Daily Journal, 30th.

There are and have been all manner of rumors in regard to Cabinet changes, but in reality but one has yet been effected—that of Mr. Breckinridge as Secretary of War in place of Mr. Seddon, resigned. All the reports in regard to other members of the Cabinet are vague and intangible.

Daily Journal, 30th.

Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell have at last got off for Washington. Although they go informally, still we cannot doubt that they go by the invitation of Lincoln. They evidently carry with them the best wishes of both armies for the success of their mission. In these wishes both peoples join. If there be any truth in the statements of the Richmond *Inquirer*, copied in to-day's *Journal*, and such positive statements from the *Inquirer* are entitled to much consideration, then some marvellous change has come over the spirit of Lincoln's dream, for we have no doubt of Blair's being an unofficial envoy of Lincoln's, fully advised of his views, and not exceeding his wishes. If Blair was willing to go so far as represented, the matter simply rests with ourselves—depends upon our own firmness; and if firm, we can obtain, or perhaps command our own terms. There are influences working in our favour the precise character of which we can only proximately estimate, but the power of which we may, if we choose, already sufficiently appreciate.

We are not sanguine that *this* visit of Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campell to Washington will *at once* result in a settlement. It may, but we rather think it will *not*. But it is plain to us that the thing is bound to *eventuate* in a peace and that at no distant day. If we are now weak-kneed or listen to the counsels of those who are, we may patch up a peace by the sacrifice of all for which the Confederacy has been fighting during the last four years. We may patch up a peace by which we will acknowledge that the best blood of the South has been shed in vain. We may patch up a peace that will deliver the South over once more to the fraternal embraces of those who have desolated her hearthstones, destroyed her property, debauched her slaves, insulted her women and children, and murdered her old men. On the contrary, by a little more firmness, a little more sacrifice, a little more suffering, a little more true patriotism, we will certainly become the arbiters of our own destiny, free to carve out for ourselves such a future as God and our own exertions may give us. One way or another, sooner or later, this must be the destiny of the Confederacy. Without it—without independence, we have no future—no destiny, and it is useless to talk of "getting the best peace you can," &c. *Without* independence there can be and there ought to be no peace. *With* independence once conceded, we would be as unwilling as any to protract the war by higgling over minor matters.

It is true, we here are threatened with devastation—with present loss of property—with many ills. Others have suffered the same and have stood firm. We trust that North Carolinians will not stand less firm than Virginians. The Valley of the Shenandoah has been ravaged by the Yankees worse than the Palatinate was by the French, and yet the people of the Valley are as true now as at the first. If this attempted negotiation for peace serves to encourage our people by showing them that they begin to approach daylight, and have only to persevere a little longer, then it may be a blessing. If, on the contrary, its failure should plunge them into despondency or turn their minds toward peace at any cost, then it will turn out to be an unmixed curse. Will not our brave soldiers who have so often and so long withstood the shock of the enemy's hosts endure now a little longer, and crown their glorious career with an equally glorious termination? Will they, who have so nobly endured, now falter when the goal of their great race is in sight, when the reward of their great exertions is within their grasp? Will they abandon the cause for which so many of their brave comrades in arms have laid down their lives? We cannot and we will not believe it. Their own fame—their tried courage, their true patriotism forbids it. Oh, let no man stab his own reputation or jeopardise his country's honor by straggling or desertion.

Daily Journal 1st inst.

It would appear that the peace movements have met with a hitch at the very outset, the commissioners having not *yet left* Petersburg, and whether they will go at all or not remaining a matter of considerable doubt. This delay may be accounted for in some satisfactory manner, but as the thing stands it does not look as though the way had been very effectually smoothed by the aged Marylander, or much progress made in coming to an understanding in regard to the substantials of negotiation, since the very preliminaries—the mere safe-conduct of commissioners, is delayed and demurred to. We repeat, so far as we can see, these delays augur anything but success to the movements now hoped for, although apparently not even inaugurated.

It would be very desirable for our people not to bother themselves over-much with thinking over the "peace rumors." These rumors will be just as apt to result in something tangible if we leave things of that kind to take care of themselves, and bend all our energies towards preparations for the coming spring campaign. Indeed they will be far more apt to result in tangible good if the hands of our negotiators are held up by the arms of our soldiers. Let us be calm, cool and reasonable, and we will run so much the better chance of being successful. If any body thinks that there is enough in these late rumors of negotiation, etc., to justify the relaxation of a single effort, then we tell him candidly that he is altogether and woefully mistaken.

But why fret and weary and worry. Things will come in their course, and our taking heed will not alter them any more than it will add to our stature or to the color of our hair or the length of our nose. Let us try to do our duty, firmly, thoughtfully, truly, but not despondingly. Despondency never did any good and it never will. There is an end to all things, and there will be an end to this war in God's good time, and in his own way. Care, care, care, care all the time will break the most buoyant spirit and render peace and prosperity themselves no boon to those who have lost the power of enjoying them, and too many of us are approaching this state of mind.—*Daily Journal.* 31.

Twaddle.—The leading editorial in the Raleigh *Conservative* of the 30th ult. The *Conservative* has simply laid itself very much open, and the less it now says the better. It only commits itself farther by its floundering. Its assault on us we care nothing for.—So let that pass. Its references to General Whiting shocked the moral sense of its cotemporaries. We confess ourselves unable to characterise it without using language to which we seldom or never resort. So we let that pass. The *Conservative* will do better the next time. At any rate it ought to know better. It will learn perhaps. We wish it well. Good-bye.

The first decision of Salmon P. Chase, now Chief Justice of the United States, was that Western Virginia is legally a State. The decision was given on the question of placing the name of that State on the list when calling the docket. Such is the character of one branch of the government which we are asked to reconstruct and to which too many weak-kneed persons counsel our obedience—yes, obedience, submission—such are the words.

We learn that a couple of Yankee deserters who came into our lines this week, said that they ran away to avoid the battle shortly to come off. They said the sixth army corps (Yankee) was expected, and when it came an advance would be made by the enemy. We give this for what it is worth. Not much probably.

Daily Journal 31st.

How often do we see in the papers the announcement that General Lee is sanguine, or General Lee favours this, or he favours that, or he favours the other thing, but the General himself says nothing at all.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of the 26th ult., gives the following version of the propositions informally made by F. P. Blair during his recent visit to Richmond, which visit was terminated on the 25th—this day a week ago:—

MINISTER BLAIR AND HIS MISSION.

Mr. Blair left Richmond yesterday morning upon the steamer Allison, with Commissioner Ould, for the "truce tryst" at Boolware's Landing. It is understood that Mr. Blair's mission to Richmond, was emphatically one of peace. After laying before our authorities, informally of course, the wishes of the Federal government, the intrepretation of which is peace on a subjugation basis, and finding that these modest desires were not likely to be complied with, he came down pointedly to the proposition of reunion upon any terms, and desired to know upon what terms the South would agree to return to the sheltering egis of the old flag. He suggested the "Union as it was," the "nigger as he is," and the South as it used to be. He suggested also that the North would foot the bill, & pay for all negroes stolen and property destroyed by the armies and emissaries of the Federal usurpation. Of course he made all of these suggestions on his own responsibility; but whether deemed authoritative or not, he received not the slightest encouragement to hope for reunion, and was made to understand that the South was fighting for independence, and independence only. He then inquired whether, if the independence of the South were recognized by the Federal Government, the South would make common cause with the North and drive the French from Mexico? The response understood to have been given to this diplomatic feeler, was, "Make the proposition formally and officially, and you will get a reply." This is the substance of Mr Blair's political conversations with persons in and out of authority while in Richmond, so far as we have been able to learn. There may be something yet *sub rosa*, but we doubt it, though, probably, there may have been some allusion to "driving the English out of Canada," in connection with the last proposition.

The *Enquirer* in another place reiterates its assertion that such were virtually and substantially the propositions made by Mr. Blair, and treats such propositions gravely as coming from Lincoln. It says:—

The second mission of the Hon. F. P. Blair, Sr., to Richmond is ended by the return of that gentleman to Washington yesterday morning. That nothing has been accomplished towards an immediate peace we feel justified in assuring our readers. The enemy are willing to permit us to dictate our own terms, provided, only, we will not dissolve the Union. Any guarantee for slavery, any constitutional provision for its protection and extension; full compensation (in *greenbacks*) for all the negroes that have been carried off during the war; *anything*, everything that we can ask or think will be freely granted, if only we will consent to re unite with them. These may not have been exactly Mr. Blair's terms, but they embrace the substance of his mission, and do not in the least exaggerate the extremity to which the enemy are willing to concede as if we will only return to the Union.

But these terms cannot purchase our liberty. We are not fighting for slavery, neither its protection nor extension; we are willing to give up slavery for our liberty; we intend to be independent and free or to be exterminated. The enemy will understand the earnestness of our people in due time; as yet they do not fully know us, but they are learning fast.

We are seeking a place among the nations of the earth, believing it to be a right secured to us by our forefathers. Slavery has nothing whatever to do with this war, we will sweep the institution from before us the moment it stands in the way of the accomplishment of our liberty. The enemy might as well abandon the effort to bribe us, with protection for slavery, out of our liberty. We admit that there are a few recreant wretches in these States who would sell their liberty for their negroes, but our word for it, they are few and utterly contemptible. Resolutions may be introduced into the Virginia Legislature looking to reconstruction, but they will be rejected with an unanimity which will forever damn the wretched traitor that has thus sought to bring shame and disgrace upon the fair name of the State. When they make their appearance it will be time enough to speak of their authors and abettors in their treasonable work. They will be found to be men of no earthly influence, men who have obtained their places in the Legislature because the army had taken into its ranks all the men fit for such places. Those who would now entertain the proposition of reconstruction and reunion with the murderers of our sons and brothers, the violators of our women, the wretches who have burned our houses and desolated our fields, are either already purchased up or have fixed their own price upon their treason and are satisfied they will obtain it. It would be most mortifying to see any such resolutions introduced, and we do largely hope that good sense may prevent their being offered.

This second mission of Mr. Blair is the best evidence that we can desire that our people have only to be true to themselves, and they will eventually secure their freedom. When Mr. Lincoln is willing to give up his love for freeing the negroes, when he and his people are willing to give constitutional guarantees for the protection of slavery, and even to repeal all the laws prohibiting its introduction into the free states; to pay for all the stolen negroes—there can be no better evidence that the enemy are beginning to understand that the "job" is too "big." Stand firm now. We have gone through the fiery ordeal. We have only to be as faithful to our cause as were the sons and brothers we now mourn, and we shall soon rejoice in the enjoyment of our liberty and independence.

There is compromise that yet may open the way to peace. It has been suggested that the United States will acknowledge our independence, provided a treaty of commerce, and a league offensive and defensive for the application of the Monroe doctrine to all the States of North America, can be agreed upon. When that proposition is made it will be time enough to discuss. In the meantime, our readers may as will revolve the subject in their minds—for it is not improbable that it may become a living, tangible proposition before many months.

The Fayetteville *Observer* says "It is understood that the Legislature in secret session appointed Senators Hall and Peel, and Commoners Person and Carter, to proceed to Richmond to ascertain, probably from the President and our Congressmen, the condition of things. They left Raleigh on Wednesday last. We suppose they will soon be heard from.

When the timid or the unfaithful leave us let no man on that account despond. We are better without them. Their going does not prove that the ship is sinking, although it may show that they are rats. Let us be shocked if we will, but let us not be depressed.—Are not our best, our bravest and our truest still with us and still firm? Who sounds a doubtful note, whose voice is worthy of being heard?

Sensational.—The reports of "heavy skirmishing," infantry fighting, etc., between our forces and those of the enemy below are purely sensational. As yet the enemy has shown no serious disposition to advance.

Promoted.—We take pleasure in stating, for the information of his numerous friends, that Capt. C. W. McClammy, Jr., of New Hanover county, has been promoted to the Majority of the 3d N. C. Cavalry, for conspicuous gallantry during the campaign just closed.

We are requested to state that Col. Burr, (previously to Mr. Wallace's communication in Saturday's paper,) had appointed two responsible gentlemen from his command, to visit the country to buy provisions for the sufferers of Wilmington.

Daily Journal, 30th.

Some things we can account for and some things we cannot account for. Among the latter we must candidly place the great and apparently sincere outcry in favor of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. For the life of us we do not know what Gen. Johnston has done.

See on other side, list of officers captured at Fort Fisher, etc., etc.

Things in Richmond.—The editor of the Mobile Register, just returned from Richmond, writes as follows: "Three weeks in Richmond showed us that General Lee is the master of that city's defences. With his present force, Grant is powerless beyond the Confederate entrenchments. His army is not so great as the public believe, and has not received the fresh hundred thousand men he demanded to complete the job. It is believed in Richmond that Sherman's late march through Georgia has the Confederate Capital for its ultimate destination, and that he will try to effect what Grant has so often attempted in vain, to wit: Occupy the railway, connecting Richmond with the South by Danville, Charlotte and Columbia—the object being to cut Lee off from his granary, and force the evacuation of the capital. It is needless just now to speculate upon the result of such a movement. We leave the case in the hands of the great and good Gen. Lee, who has never yet failed to defeat the most powerful combinations of the enemy to wrest Richmond from his grasp. He is not destitute of means and advantages in meeting such a movement."

Time.—It waits for no man—it travels onward with an even, uninterrupted, inexorable step, without accommodating itself to the delay of mortals. The restless hours pursue their course; moments press after moments; day treads upon day; year rolls after year.—Does man loiter—procrastinate? Is he listless or indolent? Behold the days, and months and years, unmindful of his delay, are never sluggish, but march forward in silent and solemn procession. Our labors and toils, our ideas and feelings may be suspended by sleep; darkness and silence and death may reign around us, but time is beyond the power of any being besides Omnipotence. The clock may cease to strike, the sun to shine; but the busy hours pass on. The months and years must move on ever, forward.

For the Journal.

TIMEO DANAOSET DONA FERENTES.

January 31st, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—

There never has been, there never will be, and there never ought to be but one issue between us and our enemies, and that issue is SUBJUGATION OR INDEPENDENCE.—*Any* terms of settlement short of the latter, necessarily involve the former. It is worse than useless, it is criminal to lose sight for one instant of the one, only, inexorable demand of the Confederate States. Reunion, reconstruction, the old State of things, &c., &c., mean, in plain English, dishonor, abject dependance, emasculation, ruin; and the man who advocates them is a coward, and an enemy to every freeman in the South. This is not the wild raving of an unreasoning man, or the effusion of an "original secessionist." It is the calm utterance of one who upheld the Union until it was dishonorable, who has suffered in this war as a soldier, and who prefers the honor of his native country, though it involve the ruin of himself and his family, to her degradation and slavery. I repeat it (and let every honest man in the South yield to the same honest conviction) we have *only* to choose between *independence* and *subjugation*. Cover up and sugar over terms as we please, if we do not gain the former, the bitter fruits of the latter are ours inevitably, and beyond any possibly contingency to the contrary. Why will no *everybody* see this? Why, in this season of hope, when our hearts yearn for a favorable termination to the negotiations which are said to be pending between our Government and the United States, will men talk of "alliances," "constitutional guarantees," &c., &c., as if we could gain *even the liberty we had in the* OLD UNION by any association or alliance with those people which is not based upon our independence.

Our people are depressed—some are already subjugated—but the army which has shed a deathless halo over the name of our Confederacy is hopeful and defiant as ever

If the negotiations now pending fail of their object, the weak-kneed will sink in despair—the subjugated will howl more piteously than ever—but the strong and true will rise higher than ever in their proud determination to strike harder, and endure to the end. I am not one of those who are sanguine in their hopes of the result of the pending negotiations. I most fervently pray they may inaugurate a blessed peace. But I am prepared for a different result. Can all your readers say the same? Are they prepared to say, "God send us peace, but if it be not His will at present, may He strengthen our arms and fortify our resolution to fight it out to the bitter end?" If we cannot say this, do we *deserve* to be free? Well has a venerable correspondent of mine recently said "nothing can whip us but *our own pusillanimity.*" Are we to show that quality after these rifling the world for four years past with our devoted heroism? The army never will—and can the men who stay at home, out of danger, exhibit the degrading pusillanimity of abandoning the army and the sacred cause to which they are pledged, in order to embrace the infamy of obedience and base submission to the vulgar tyranny of Abraham Lincoln? May God forbid such an event!

If Messrs. Stephens, Campbell and Hunter fail to effect a negotiation with Mr. Lincoln, and return to their country and friends, bringing the same message of conditional pardon from a despot which has heretofore been contemptuously offered us, what answer will the soul of a freeman make? Will not the cry of Patrick Henry rise to his lips, "Give me liberty, or give me death?" May this cry, in such an event, ring unanimously throughout our land, and may every man who can carry a musket move to the battle field with it on his lips.

W.

Fort Anderson,
January 26th, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—

Sitting in my shanty after a substantial breakfast, enjoying that everlasting luxury, the pipe, by the cheerful fire, that troublesome thought again passes into my cranium: "Why can't we have a reporter to puff us in the paper?" Maddened by these thoughts, about how vastly we lose, because nobody will puff us, and going on the popular idea nowadays, "if no one will blow thy horn, blow it thyself, and with all thy might," your humble servant seizes his very green horn and bloweth as follows:

It being reported in some parts that the Sampson Artillery (well known in Nassau and amongst blockaders and blockade runners generally) had lost their celebrated Whitworths on the retreat from Fort Caswell, it is meet that the folks at home should know, as well as the Yankee fleet, that such is not the case.

Last evening one of the enemy's vessels sarted from the anchorage off Price's Creek in order to reconnoitre up in this vicinity. Coming in view of this Fort from around the point at a distance of 3 miles, she threw several shells, evidently at the Fort, but which fell short of us. Now the said Whitworths are stationed at the Fort, and being aroused by the saucy attitude of the Yankee, one detachment manned their gun by order of Col. Hedrick, and gave her a shot which struck her; when she steamed off, not towards the Fort, but away with all speed. Another smaller ship which had followed the larger one, now turned without having opened at all, and made for a safer berth;—again the Whitworth fired, this time falling a few feet short—a third anon struck her amidships, right into the wheelhouse. She seemed to forget to return the compliment in her haste to be off, and after a couple more shots from Whitworth, she hoisted sail and literally flew o'er the waters and out of sight around the point. You need not say, Mr. Editor, that she came up stern foremost, or your readers might suppose that she intended to run off anyway, and our battery might lose some of the credit of having driven her off; no, my intention is to blow a very loud horn.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the splendid marksmanship of Sergt. Jones who acted as gunner, or of the promptitude and discipline of the detachment. Neither can too much be said of our gallant Captain who has organized a first rate battery under circumstances which would have defeated a less energetic and determined soul.

In conclusion, let me ask to be charitably heard, as I only wish to let your readers know that about Fort Anderson we are yet alive and kicking.

SCRIB.

For the Journal.

Camp 28th Georgia Regiment, Jan. 27th, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—Noticing a communication in your paper a few days since, suggesting a mode for suppressing straggling and plundering in the army, I take the liberty of suggesting another and I think a more efficacious one—if you think it worthy of a place in your most valuable paper. It is to increase the *rations*. The shorter rations, the greater the straggling, and consequently the more plundering. If the soldiers felt that the government was doing the very best it could, you would not hear a word; but the enlisted men feel that it is intended for them but they do not receive it. Are not the tithes of pork given in at the rates of 2500 lbs. for 1500 lbs. bacon? If it is received 25 for 16, why is it that it is not issued to the troops in the same proportion—allowing them about ¼ lb. of pork instead of ⅓ lb? One-third of a pound of fresh meat is not enough for subsistence.

Another question: What becomes of the one-tenth allowed for wastage? The Division and Brigade Commissaries are allowed this wastage, when there are only nine divisions to be made—four to the Division and five to the Brigade—but when issued to the Regiments where it is to be divided into at least 6,000 parts, no allowance is made for wastage. This reduces it to a very simple proposition: If one-tenth is wasted in nine divisions, what will be wasted in 6,000? Admitting that each soldier gets his one-third of a pound, and there is a surplus, ought not the soldiers in the trench to get it. Around Division and Brigade headquarters—around Division and Brigade Quarter and Commissary headquarters—there is a retinue of detailed men and servants who live in superabundance, and where does it come from? Do they purchase it of the Government. The non-commissioned staff, almost to a man, have a servant, and where and how do they feed them? They are only allowed one-third of a pound, and that will not feed two; and they are not allowed to purchase from the Government. The Headquarters officials are allowed to purchase one ration, yet their boards are always spread with the richest viands.

The truth is, those men of leisure who live on the men in the ditches and who are pregnant with *otium cum dignitate* are a great thorn in the sides of the poor private.—It is my candid conviction that if more attention was paid to the enlisted men getting what the government suppose they get, there would be less desertion, straggling and plundering generally.

A SOLDIER,
28th Georgia Regiment.

For the Journal.

Messrs. Editors:—

By "*casemate batteries*" I meant shell-proof covers for guns, either of *masonry* or *iron*. If *floating* batteries "iron clad" will stand, certainly *fixed* batteries cannot fail to do so. This is my opinion as a civilian. Not being a soldier I can only *think*.

A few detached re doubts (any three) could, I suppose, if iron clad have prevented a landing between Fisher and the head of the Sound. To fortify five miles of coast or country this way is not a new idea. I could name a case in point if need be.

No one is a better friend of General Whiting than the writer. He has the endorsement of several Generals to his skill and ability, but has not *experience* shown that improvements might have been made had any one have *foreseen* the "*immensity*" of the fire. Whose fault is it?—None, to my mind. I was giving, or trying to give the causes of failure. But enough.

No "bitterness" was intended. That great soldier, Gen. Lee, is above any attack by my puny arm if I desired it, and I do not for a moment. No one can admire him and

TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

COMMISSIONERS TO THE UNITED STATES.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28th, 1865.

Senator Hunter, of Virginia, Vice President Stephens, of Ga., and Judge Campbell, of Ala., have been appointed Commissioners to proceed to Washington to confer with the authorities of the United States Government on the question of peace. They will leave to-morrow.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28th, 1865.

The Senate to-day again passed the bill authorising the transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage, notwithstanding the President's objections—yeas 13, nays 4. Nothing of importance done in the House.

SECRETARY OF WAR AND COMMISSARY GENERAL.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28th, 1865.

General Breckenridge has been appointed Secretary of War.

It is reported that Wm. Johnston of North Carolina, Gov. Vance's competitor for Governor when he was first elected, will be appointed Commissary General, vice Northrop, resigned.

SHERMAN'S FORCES ON THE MOVE.

MACON, GA., Jan. 28th, 1865.

Private advices from Savannah state that Sherman commenced his movement on South Carolina on the 17th inst., with three columns—his main column moving towards Charleston, taking nearly all of his transportation,—the two other columns in light marching order moving by separate roads towards Branchville.

Gen Hill has issued orders for all non-combatants to leave Augusta.

The Marietta Hotel, at Marietta, Ga., was destroyed on the night of the 20th; supposed accidental.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 29th, 1865.

The House rejected in secret session, after debate, the proposition to amend the Senate bill for the employment of slaves as free negroes to work on fortifications, etc., by proviso that said slaves should not be armed and used as soldiers. The bill was further considered, as amended, and passed.

THE YANKEE ADVANCE ON SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 29th, 1865.

Our scouts report the enemy's infantry as camped near Ennis' Cross Roads, on the road leading towards Grahamville, and on the road towards Sisters Ferry. They have their wagon trains with them.

A reconnoitering force was reported within four miles of Robertsville this morning.

A small party of Yankees landed on Little Britain Island, near Legare's, on Saturday night, but were driven off.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT SUMMITT, MISS.

JACKSON, MISS., Jan. 28th, 1865.

Twenty three houses, with six hundred bales of cotton, commissary, quartermaster and other stores, were burnt at Summit this morning. The fire was accidental.

FROM PETERSBURG.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 29th, 1865.

During church hours to-day, a heavy cannonading was in progress on our line between our and the enemies' river batteries.

Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, Commissioners, are in this city, and will be passed by flag of truce through Federal Johnson's lines to-morrow. Their mission excites much comment in all circles.

REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF THE FRENCH MINISTER FROM WASHINGTON.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30th, 1865.

A rumor was current last night that the French Minister at Washington had demanded his passports, but it is not generally credited. It is known that both houses of the Federal Congress have passed diplomatic appropriation bills without amendment virtually ignoring Maximillian.—Some suppose that this may have given offence to the French Minister.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30th, 1865.

In the House to-day Mr. Dejarnette submitted the following, which he supported in an able and elaborate speech:

WHEREAS, All nations have ever witnessed with alarm the establishment of any formidable power in their vicinity; and whereas, the people of the Confederate States, as well as the people of the United States, have ever cherished the resolve that any further acquisition of territory in North America, by any foreign power, would be inconsistent with their prosperity and developement; and whereas, the invasion of Mexico by France has resulted, as is alleged, in the establishment of a government founded on the consent of the governed, nevertheless we have reason to believe that ulterior designs are entertained against California and the other Pacific States, which we do not regard parties to the war now waged against us, as they have neither furnished men nor money for its prosecution; therefore the Congress of the Confederate States do resolve that the time may not be distant when we will be prepared to unite, on the basis of the independence of the Confederate States, with those most interested, in the vindication of the Monroe doctrine, to the exclusion of all seeming violations of those principles on the continent of North America.

The above was referred to the committee on foreign affairs, and the House resolved into secret session.

THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 30th, 1865.

The Peace Commissioners are still here. Applications to pass through the enemy's lines were made yesterday and to-day. At a late hour this afternoon an answer was returned, the purport of which has not been promulgated.—The final movements of the Commissioners will probably be determined to-morrow.

In consequence of pending communications a general truce was observed on the lines to-day.

THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30th, 1864.

No Yankee papers received since the 23d inst.

The recent severe cold spell has caused a suspension of river navigation.

Unbroken reticence is still maintained at the Executive department relative to the Blair mission and the three Commissioners who left Richmond yesterday for Washington, via Petersburg and City Point.

The Sentinel says that the circumstances under which these gentlemen have departed on their mission, is understood to be as follows: Blair having sought an unofficial and confidential interview with President Davis, departed for Washington with the assurance that our President would be willing at any time, without any obstacle of form, to send agents or Commissioners to Washington to confer about terms of peace, if he was informed in advance that said commissioners would be received. On Blair's second visit to Richmond he brought the consent of Lincoln to receive and confer with any agents informally sent with a view to the restoration of peace. The three gentlemen who left yesterday were thereupon selected by the President, and have gone without formal credentials, but merely as informal agents, to see whether it be possible to place a conference for peace on any basis which may serve for attaining so desirable a result.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30th, 1865.

Northern papers of the 24th and 25th inst. have been received.

The main building of the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday evening. Numerous valuable paintings, documents, etc., were consumed. The museum and library were saved. The origin of the fire was accidental.

A San Francisco telegram of the 23d, announces the arrival of Captain Beauregard, brother of General Beauregard, in the capacity of private Secretary to ex-Senator Gwyn. He reports that Gwyn has been created Duke by Maximillian, and appointed viceroy over five States ceded by France in payment for troops furnished by the French government. The story is not believed further than that Gwyn has obtained certain land grants, and is authorized to encourage immigration from the Confederate States.

The Steamship Atlanta, from Mobile Bay, with one thousand bales of cotton from the rebel government, arrived at New York on the 24th.

Gen. Dix has suppressed the publication of the rebel personals in the New York Daily News.

A Washington telegram says that the entire subject of the exchange of prisoners is now in the hands of General Grant, and there is reason to believe that a full exchange will soon be effected.

Sumner and Wilson both opposed the measures of retaliation proposed by Congress.

The Toronto gunboat affair is pronounced a canard.

Gold unchanged.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30th, 1865.

Nothing of importance done in open session to-day. Mr Graham was elected President of the Senate *pro tem ad interim* during the absence of Vice President Stephens and the President *pro tem*.

RICHMOND, Jan. 31st, 1865.

Mr. Smith, of Alabama, publishes a card to his constituents this morning, in which he says the question of opening informal negotiations of peace with the enemy having assumed a shape agreeable to his own, and, as he believes, to their wishes, he shall waive all personal considerations, and resume his seat in the House of Representatives this day.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 31st, 1865.

In the House, after debate, the Senate bill to authorize the transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage was again passed, notwithstanding the objection of the President—yeas 62, nays 13—and it thereby becomes a law. Resolutions were adopted cordially thanking the officers and men of the 9th, 14th and 5th regiments Virginia infantry for their patriotic determination to dedicate themselves anew to the sacred cause of liberty and independence. Mr. Ewing submitted resolutions relative to the State representatives of Missouri and Kentucky, which, after debate, were laid upon the table. The House then resolved into secret session.

The Senate agreed to a reference of the Consolidation bill to a committee of conference. The House bill for the sequestration of the property of persons liable to military service, who have departed or shall depart from the Confederate States without permission, was passed—yeas 12, nays 7.

GENERAL LEE AS GENERAL-IN-CHIEF—PRESIDENT DAVIS—THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 31st, 1865.

General Lee's nomination as General-in-chief was prepared last week at the War Department, by order of the President. The delay in sending it to the Senate arises from the President's inability to sign his name, in consequence of a severe attack of neuralgia in his right arm and hand. The President is still confined to his room this morning, and may not be able for some days to recover the use of his hand.

It is stated that the peace commissioners, in passing through our lines, were greeted with vociferous cheers by the troops, and that similar demonstrations were made by the Yankee troops on their arrival within the Yankee lines.

Gen. Breckenridge will enter upon the duties of his new position as Secretary of War next Monday.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

RICHMOND, Jan. 31st, 1865.

The New York Tribune of the 26th instant has been received.

An arrival from Pernambuco reports that the Confederate steamer Shenandoah had destroyed several American merchantmen along the coast of Brazil, in consequence of which vessels bound to the United States were obtaining British registers.

The U. S. steamer Harriet Lane, at Havana, was found on fire on the 18th. She was towed ashore and scuttled.

A residence, costing thirty thousand dollars, has been presented to General Grant by the citizens of Philadelphia.

McClellan sailed for Europe on Wednesday.

The American Hotel, at Buffalo, and other buildings, were destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Loss one million of dollars.

Gold 266.

THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS INSIDE THE YANKEE LINES.

PETERSBURG, Jan. 31st, 1865.

Gen. Grant sent in a flag of truce to-day announcing that our commissioners would be received at 3 o'clock, P. M.—Accordingly at that hour Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell proceeded out on the Baxter road, and, under a flag of truce, entered the enemy's lines in front of Wise's brigade, of Gen. Bushrod Johnson's division. They were received by Col. Hancock, of Gen. Grant's staff, and conducted to a special train of cars awaiting in the rear. The commissioners will be entertained at Grant's headquarters to-night, and start for Washington to-morrow. Mr. Stephen's servant was permitted to accompanying him.

Col. Hatch, assistant agent of exchange, accompanies the commissioners as Secretary.

During the passage of the commissioners the breastworks of the enemy, as well as our own, were crowded with soldiers witnessing the novel event.

THE YANKEE ADVANCE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 31st, 1865.

All the movements of the enemy indicate Augusta and Branchville as their points of destination.

The 20th army corps occupy Robertsville.

A heavy force of infantry, artillery and cavalry is reported encamped near the junction of Salkahatchie and old Union road. The force is believed to be the 13th and 17th army corps.

Yesterday morning the enemy advanced in considerable force of infantry and artillery from White Point, and drove in our skirmish line three miles to King's Creek. Our infantry afterwards advanced and drove the enemy back to White Point, re-establishing our picket line. Since this all has been quiet on the Combahee at that point.

The enemy made a demonstration on our position at the pontoon bridge over Salkahatchie this afternoon, but without result.

It is reported that the enemy burnt McPhersonville last night.

YANKEE HUMANITY TO THE NEGROES.—The last yankee papers have some urgent appeals for help for the negroes whom Sherman has carried off, or induced to run off, from their masters during his march through Georgia. They show how much the negroes have been benefited by freedom. They were generally well cared for by their owners, in sickness, in health, in infancy, and in old age. Now see what their condition is:

Brig. Gen. Rufus Sexton, Military Governor of South Carolina, writes "to the good men and women of the North," as follows:—

"We earnestly appeal to you on behalf of the *thousands of suffering negroes* whom Gen. Sherman has just liberated by his triumphant march through Georgia. They have arrived on the coast after long marches and severe privations, *weary, famished, sick and almost naked*. Seven hundred of these wretched people arrived at Beaufort Christmas night, *in a state of misery which would have moved to pity a heart of stone*, and these are but the advance of a host no less destitute. Unless the charity of the North comes speedily to the rescue, they must *die by hundreds from exposure and disease*. So extreme and entire is the destitution of this people, that nothing which you can afford to give will come amiss. Clothing is their most pressing need, especially for women and children; Shoes and stockings, hats, suspenders and under-garments of all kinds, utensils, medicine, money—anything you have to spare—will find its use among this *wretched people*."

Another "appeal" for these "poor suffering creatures" says: *Two hundred of the four taken out are sick through exposure, and coffins go out each day to bury the dead.* Before this reaches you, from *three to five thousand more equally destitute, will be laid upon our hands. What in God's name shall we do with them?* How offer them sufficient in the way of physical comfort, even to keep them from regretting their escape from slavery."

And this is the condition of the few thousand blacks that have been liberated by Sherman. And yet the North—in the face of this confession—would set free the four millions of slaves of the South. And for what? To die from sheer starvation!

A TRUE CHIEF MOURNER.—The Vicksburg Herald relates the following circumstances:

During the fight at Big Black river on the 17th of May, 1863, a rebel was killed, who was buried by his comrades on the Western side of the river, near the breastworks which the rebels had thrown up to defend the crossing of the river.

A dog, which is supposed to belong to the deceased, has ever since stood guard at the grave, refusing to be seduced from his faithful guardianship of the remains of his dead master; or to be comforted for his loss.—During the silent watches of the night his mournful howl could be distinctly heard, and though hundreds of our soldiers have endeavored to seduce him from his guardianship, he still remained faithful and refused to leave the grave. Up to the hour when the post was evacuated by our troops, the dog could be heard howling over the grave of his deceased master. Repeated attempts to capture him had made him shy, and for several weeks previous to the abandonment of the post by our army he could never be seen at the grave though his melancholy howl at night could be distinctly heard, and his tracks seen at the grave. If not dead, we have have no doubt he still watches, a solitary mourner, over the grave.

Forget injuries and remember benefits; if you grant a favor, forget it; if you receive one, remember it.

LIST OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

In the Confederate service, captured at the storming of Fort Fisher, Federal Point, N. C., by the United States forces, under command of Brevet Major General ALFRED H. TERRY, *U. S. Vols., on the 15th day of January, 1865.*

W H C Whiting, Major General, C S A, severely wounded.
J H Hill, Major & A A G, C S A
S G Hasell, Lieut & A D C, C S A, wounded slightly.
J T S Reid, Lieut & A A G, C S A.
Wm Lamb, Colonel 36th N C V, wounded severely.
James M Stevenson, Major 36th N C V.
K J Brady, Captain " "
R J Murphy, Captain " "
B B Dudley, Captain " "
O H Powell, Captain " "
J T Melvin, Captain " "
Daniel Patterson, Captain " "
Daniel Munn, Captain " "
J Westcott, 1st Lieut " "
J Soules, 1st Lieut " "
N Legrand, 1st Lieut " "
A V Goodwin, 1st Lieut " "
Wm Swain, 1st Lieut " "
G D Parker, 1st Lt & Adjt " "
A McG Jones, 1st Lt & Ord Off. " "
D Williams, Lieutenant " "
John Stancell, Lieutenant " "
W C Daniel, Lieutenant " "
M W Pridgen, Lieutenant " "
W W McCraine, Lieutenant " "
A B Burr, Lieutenant " " wounded slightly.
Jas Owen, Lieutenant " "
C J Williams, Lieutenant, " " wounded severely
J M Cowan, Lieutenant " "
H S Benton, Lieutenant " "
J N Kelly, Lieutenant " "
A B Burrow, Lieut. 36th N C V.
W W Drew, Lieut. 36th N C V., wounded slightly.
E R Hunter, Lieut. " "
J J Cain, Lieut. " "
Thomas Hickman, Lieut. " "
E L Faison, Lieut. " "
Jas Riley, Major 10th N C Vols.
E D Walsh, Captain " "
W Shaw, Captain " " wounded severely.
E G Hood, Lieut. " "
T Arundell, Lieut " "
Livin Fulford, Lieut. " "
A C Van Beathuysen, Captain C S Marine Corps, wounded severely.
D Bradford, 1st Lieut. " "
J C Murdough, Lieut. " "
J D S Roberts, Lieut. " "
W G Heggins, 1st Lieut. N C Marines.
G C Buchan, Captain 40th N C V., wounded severely.
J S Lane, Captain, " " wounded slightly.
D J Clarke, Captain " "
H M McBride, " "
C S Bryan, 1st Lieut. " "
W Hassell, 1st Lieut. " "
J J McNair, Lieut. " "
J M McKinnon, Lieut. " "
A Barrington, Lieut. " "
H H Hooker, " " "
J W Dickson, " " "
W F Stanley, " " "
D G Debose, Captain 21st S C Vols.
E B Grech, Captain " "
Thomas Ford, Captain, 21st S. C. V.
W B Baker, " " wounded slightly.
E R W McKinne, 1st Lieut and Adjt, S C V., wounded.
W D Woodbury, " " "
J C Clements, " " "
S D Sanders, " " "
H S White, Lieutenant, " "
H Wilson, " " "
D R McIvor, " " wound slightly.
F Divers, " " "
W D Cook, " " "
T D Zimmerman, " " "
C Logan, Captain, 25th S C V.
J T Izler, " "
A J Mines, 1st Lieutenant " "
J M Pendegast " "
J Graves, Lieutenant, " "
E R Rush, " " "
J E Prince, " " "
E J Norris, " " "
W D Colchett, " " "
W Salters, " " "
W W Wise, " " "
R F Felder, " " "
H K Hucks, Captain, 11th S C V.
J P Mims, Lieutenant, " "
B Evans, " 1st Battalion N C V.
T N Argo, " " "
Z T Adams, Captain, 13th N C Light Battery.
O H Latham, Lieut " "
J M Sutton, Captain 3d N C Light Battery.
J R Powell, Lieutenant " "
J G Frame, Lieutenant " "
W B Gwinn, Lieutenant 2d Engineers, N C V.
R G Pitman, Lieutenant " "
C H Blacker, Capt & A A C S, C S A.
Hugh Waddell, Jr., Lieutenant Telegraph Corps.
T W Stradley, " " "
Singleton, Surgeon C S A.
D G Coit, Assistant Surgeon C S A.
J C Shepard, " "
P Bledsoe, " "
R J Muirhead, " "
Wm Wills, Acting Assistant Surgeon C S A.
W W Griggs, Assistant Surgeon C S Navy.
J M Hicks, " "
George A Foote, " "

(Signed) ALFRED H. TERRY,
Major General.

The officers not specially noticed in the list as wounded are stated by Gen. Terry to be either uninjured, or so slightly wounded as to need no surgical attention.

The above is a correct copy of the list furnished by Maj. Gen. Terry, commanding U. S. forces at Fort Fisher.

ARCHER ANDERSON, A. A. G.

A COLD BEDFELLOW.

An Irishman, about half seas over, some time since applied at a country tavern for lodgings. The landlord was lazy, and patronized his own bar most extensively, so he said to the new-comer:

"If I give you a light, and tell you where the room is, do you suppose you can find the place?"

"Och, and it's meself that can do that most illegantly. Just show me the way, an' I'll find it as aisy as the Holy Virgin showers down blessings upon the sinful," rejoined the Irishman.

The directions were given him and also a candle; he was directed to go to a room on the second floor in the house. By the time he had reached the top of the stairs, his light had become extinguished, and he had forgotten in what direction he was to go. Seeing rays of light issuing from a room, the door of which stood slightly ajar, he reconnoitred the inside of the room, and found it to contain a bed, on which lay a man, and a stand with a small lighted lamp upon it. Feeling disinclined to make any further search for the room to which he had been directed, he divested himself of his clothing and quietly crept into bed.

He had been in bed but a few moments when a young lady and gentleman entered the room. The Irishman eyed them closely. They seated themselves on the chairs in close proximity to each other, and after chatting merrily for a short time, the young man threw his arms around her waist in a very cousinly manner, and imprinted a kiss upon her tempting lips. The scene amused the Irishman vastly, and being free from selfishness, he concluded that his sleeping companion should be a participant with him in the enjoyment of the scene. He nudged him, but his sleeping companion stirred not. He put his hand upon him and found that he was tightly locked in the embrace of death. Not anonymous with this discovery, he bounded out of bed exclaiming:

"Murther! murther! Howly saints of hivin protect me!"

He had scarcely touched the floor with his feet before the young lady and gentleman were making rapid strides towards the stairway, terror being depicted on their countenances. They had just reached the top of the stairs when the Irishman came dashing along as though the fiends of Erebus were closing at his heels, intent on making him their prey, and the whole three went tumbling down the stairs, and it is hard to determine which of the three reached the foot of the stairs first.

The landlord stood aghast as the Irishman rushed into the bar-room, with nothing between him and nudity but a garment vulgarly called a shirt, the hair on his head standing upon end, his eye-balls ready to leap from their sockets and he gasping for breath. It was a sight that would have made a man laugh who had worn a visegar face from the day of his birth. Nothing could induce him to again seek a bed that night.

When the young lady and gentleman found that it was not the corpse that had so unceremoniously bounded from the bed, they returned to the room, they being the watchers for the night, and doubtless commenced their courting at the point where it had so suddenly broken off.

The gentleman at church may be known by the following marks:

1. Comes in good season, so as neither to interrupt the pastor nor the congregation by a late arrival.

2. Does not stop on the steps nor in the portico, either to gaze at the ladies, salute friends, or display his colloquial powers.

3. Opens and shuts the door gently, and walks deliberately and lightly up the aisle or gallery stairs, and gets his seat as quietly, and by making as few people move as possible.

4. Take his place either in the back part of the seat, or steps out in the aisle when any one wishes to pass in, and never thinks of such a thing as making people crowd past him while keeping his place on his seat.

5. Is always attentive to strangers, and gives up his seat to such; seeking another for himself.

6. Never thinks of defiling the house of God with tobacco spittle, or annoying those who sit near him by chewing that nauseous weed in church.

7. Never, unless in the case of illness, get up or goes out during the time of service. But if necessity compels him to do so, goes so quietly that his very manner is an apology for the act.

8. Does not engage in conversation before the commencement of service.

9. Does not whisper, or laugh, or eat fruit in the house of God, or lounge in that holy place.

10. Does not rush out of the church like a tramping horse, the moment the benediction is pronounced, but retires slowly in a noiseless, quiet manner.

11. Does all he can by precept and example to promote decorum in others, and is ever ready to lend his aid to discountenance all indecorum in the house of God.

HOOD'S TENNESSEE CAMPAIGN.

An "intelligent officer," whose prominent position in the Confederate army gives him peculiar means of obtaining correct information, and who was personally cognizant of all the events of the recent campaign of General Hood, has afforded the Augusta Constitutionalist a very clear insight into the movement of our forces beyond the Tennessee river. The statements of the gentleman are so wholly impartial, and so eminently satisfactory, that the Constitutionalist thinks the campaign was not so "ill-starred" and "luckless" as has been generally imagined:

"From the moment General Hood entered the noble old 'Volunteer State' he drove the Federal forces before him, until, beleaguered within the strong defences of Nashville, they at last stood at bay. At Columbia Thomas evidently intended giving battle, for he planted his army in a fine position, behind formidable earthworks. Our commander, who, though impetuous and dashing, is not by any means reckless, instantly saw the needlessness of sacrificing so many valuable lives as would be necessary in making a direct assault. Accordingly he quietly evaded the Federals, and by crossing Duck river at a point seven miles distant, successfully flanked the enemy. This necessitated the retreat of Thomas, our forces rapidly pursuing until reaching Franklin, where occurred the very short yet obstinate and bloody battle of which our readers have already been advised. Unfortunately, the coming on of night prevented us reaping all the advantages of that dearly bought victory, and the next morning developed the flight of the Federals, after a heavy loss in killed and wounded, prisoners, artillery and munitions of war.

"Hence, to the very gates of Nashville, the path was plain and unembarrassed; and our gallant boys trod it with lightness of step and buoyancy of heart.—About the capital, General Hood established his lines, throwing up works and disposing his forces with the skill of an old master of the art of war. Until the 5th of December he maintained his position, annoying the enemy by daily reconnoissances and expeditions against his lines of communication, exterior posts and garrisons.

"On the 15th of December, Thomas, forced to do something by the pertinacious demands of his master at Washington, advanced upon Hood, and was thoroughly worsted. The succeeding day (the 16th) he sallied forth anew, and attacked us with vehemence. Beaten completely upon each wing, he would have been completely overthrown had not an unfortunate *contretemps* occurred, which immediately and disastrously changed the whole tide of battle. Our centre, though not severely pressed, gave way suddenly—our works were abandoned, and a flight ensued. The wings, unable to contend longer, yielded, and what should have been a victory, with Nashville as a prize, resulted in a sad defeat. This was one of those inexplicable affairs that so mystify and darken the pages of history—especially in this war. It was wholly unaccountable, and, we fear, must ever remain so. We lost by this unlucky accident heavily in artillery, from the fact that our pieces were all placed in a battery behind the works, and the horses were in safety some distance in the rear. Our losses in men and other material were insignificant, while those of the enemy must have reached fully ten thousand.

"That Thomas was very badly damaged is evident from the fact that he did not follow up his singularly obtained advantage. In truth, he was quite as much surprised at the issue of the contest as our own commander. Six days thereafter our army was only forty miles from the battle-field, and without molestation withdrew to the south of the Tennessee river, bringing with it, among other supplies, one thousand beef cattle and ten thousand hogs.

"The retreat was marked by no precipitancy, the abandonment of no trains, nor the desertion of any troops. At Columbia the Tennessee soldiers flocked about their favorite leader, General Cheatham, and though reluctant to leave their native State, expressed the noble and heroic determination to follow him wherever the good of the cause demanded. The spirit of the people, as evinced both upon the advance and withdrawal of our army, is mentioned as in the highest degree patriotic. They were liberal to the troops, as they have always been, and exultant at the prospect of redemption from the blighting tyranny of Lincoln and Andy Johnson. Tyrannized over as they have been, they are still loyal and devoted to the interests of the Confederacy. From them there is heard no whisper of reconstruction or further intercourse with the detested Yankees. Total and absolute independence is what they alone want—it is that for which they have already suffered untold wrongs—and for which they are ready to suffer a still greater accumulation of insult and oppression. The spirit of such a people cannot be broken, no matter what disasters may, for a time, obscure our hopes.

"General Hood returned from his campaign with a less of not exceeding four thousand men—while that of the enemy was four fold. He completely outgeneraled Thomas in every movement; to such an extent, indeed, that the favorite commander has been relieved by the Washington War Department. He is succeeded in raising a large number of recruits in South and Western Kentucky, who, under General Lyon, still occupy that State.

"With the spirit of his noble army unbroken, with artillery sufficient for a force of fifty thousand men, with subordinate commanders who repose the greatest confidence in him, Gen. Hood awaits an opportune moment to recover the prestige of the Army of Tennessee."

THE FOLLIES AND FOIBLES OF PARIS.

Man never was guilty of as many follies as he is at this time. There is not a "fast" young man here—and you know we are all "fast"—who has not his hair dresser to go with him everywhere. All the huntsmen who have quitted Paris to shoot the birds during the ornithological St. Bartholomew, which custom sanctions this month, have carried their hair dresser with them. Go into a fashionable barber's shop and have your beard shaved, Figaro will ask you at the end of the operation: "Shall I make your face, sir?" Make means paint—a little touch of rouge on your cheek to heighten it with health's glow.

We shall see men wearing as many rings as lorettes yet; already everybody has signet rings; diamond shirt buttons are on every wristband. If you look attentively, two or three costly rings may be detected among the charms on our watch chains. We wear veils when we return from races. Some bold fellows have ventured on parasols and fans. The other sex are not one whit behind us. The etruscan ear-rings they wear are like Alexander Dumas' novels—they have no end. Every woman makes her point of honor to wear at least three new dresses a day. There was a little actress from the Folies Dramatique, who went down to Trouville, and she displayed one hundred new dresses in the ten days she was there. A hundred dresses in ten days! I see you stare your unsophisticated eyes!—Impossible!

Wait a moment. Hold up your fingers, Count. She wore one dress in the morning, when she went to take her ante-breakfast string. One, isn't it? She wore another to breakfast. Two, eh? Another to after breakfast walk. Three, eh? Another to the bath. Four that makes?—Another to the post-ablution walk. Hold up your thumb for five! Another to luncheon. Give us your little finger, and call it six. Another for the walk after luncheon.—Ain't that seven? Another for horseback exercise before dinner. Sing out eight. Another for dinner. Pray, isn't that nine? Another for the ball. Give us your thumb and say ten; and look you, never again pretend to fathom a lady's handbox and trunk. "But she did nothing but dress!" Silence, sir! That is none of your business.—Besides, isn't it better a woman's whole time should be taken up by her dress than by gossiping, or getting her husband into hot water?

Would that dressing and undressing were the only follies of our women. The mode now is for them to imitate the color of the Empress' hair. We laugh at the courtiers who had operations for imaginary fistulas performed because Louis XIV was so afflicted, and here all the women are imitating the Empress' Spanish walk and color of hair. I don't wonder that so many people are carried to the madhouse—the wonder that some *monstre* commission *de'lunatico inquirendo* be not sued out against us all, and result in all of us being sent to Charenton, where the Paris Bedlam is situated. Would you know the process by which jet black hair is transformed into golden hair? for our fair dames of Court and all our lorettes (they rather began it) sacrifice their beautiful hair as freely as a red head with you sacrifices his carrot. You wish to hear how the metamorphosis is obtained? At the appointed hour the candidate for golden honors enters the dressing room, attired in a long white dressing gown. Her hair floats loosely over her shoulders, unsecured by comb or pin. The "artist" is there.

He begins by seeing that the hair is thoroughly separated; then he, by degrees, pours over the head a phial of some "water," (which probably holds in solution corrosive sublimate, or some deadly poison,) and he takes hair by hair and saturates it with water from one end to the other end. This takes two hours. He allows fifteen minutes to elapse, and then he soaks the whole hair in the water; next he pours another phial of his "water" upon the hair, and kneads the hair with his hands. Another respite of a quarter of an hour is given, which is followed by soaking the head in ice water, which is succeeded by a new phial of "water" These processes takes two hours and fifteen minutes more.

The "artist" then takes two tailor's "gooses" heated to a high degree of temperature. The chambermaid holds the ends of her mistress' hair, and the "artist" moves backward and forward the "gooses" with a few inches of the hair until the hair becomes red. This ends the operation, which has lasted five hours, and then leaves the lady with red hair, an intolerable headache, jangled nerves, and eighty dollars less in pocket. I say eighty dollars; not eighty francs, but four hundred francs. Felix, the hair dresser, who invented the operation, is making more money than ever, and before he resorted to this method he was literally coining money. So we go! The city is not only changing its appearance and even its names, but the women themselves are undergoing metamorphose. You quit your brunette in Rue de Cimay in an old fashioned house—be absent a few months—you find her living on the same spot, but the street is called the Rue Victor Cousin; the name has been changed, the house has been pulled down, and a vast caravansary erected on its site, and she has become red headed. Wonder after this that so many of us are going mad.

From the Augusta Register.

RECRUITING AT THE NORTH.

We have long since abandoned the fallacy that any political disruption or any financial crash at the North would be brought about so as to operate in our favor. We have regarded those who expressed such belief as trusting their hopes upon an imaginary basis.

We must hope for something else. Our opinion has been that when the war was once actually brought home to the people of the North, when misled foreigners and Africans could no longer be found to replenish their depleted ranks, then, and not till then, would they begin to wince under the burden of the war.

The North will never stand it to see her producers taken from their farms, her merchants from their warehouses and her mechanics from their work shops, and when the time arrives when she cannot carry on the war without enlisting these portions of her population, then she would cry out against the oppressive weight of the war, and seek for surcease from it by the most speedy practical means.

We have been somewhat confirmed in this opinion by Mr. Pollard's "Ten Month's Observation in the Enemy's Country" which has been recently published in the Richmond *Examiner*. We extract from that article:

Mr. Pollard, says:

"The writer was in the North during the great exigency of recruiting their armies after Grant's butchery of the old Potomac veterans and the vast expenditure of Yankee life in last summer's campaign. The system of Yankee recruiting was then, as he saw it, debased downright to the expedient of foreign enlistment and the arming of the negro. It is these means—scarcely anything more than these—which is to-day recruiting the armies of the enemy. Their whole system of recruiting has passed to this wretched shift, and beyond the short life of such a military expedient the South has little or nothing to fear. It is positively known to the writer that Grant is now recruiting almost exclusively with negro troops; and his best impressions, derived from observation, are that at least three-fourths of the army of the James are composed of negro troops, and that in the force lately commanded by General Butler there was but one white corps.

It is not asserting too much to say that the North is at this time practically more pinched for the want of arms bearing men than is the Confederacy. The writer has not caught at loose assertions or idle rumors. The information comes from a general officer in the Yankee armies around Richmond, that the half million draft yielded not more than seventy thousand effective soldiers. It was patched up with infamous frauds and absurd "communications" to conciliate the opposition in the Presidential election of last November. In that election the vote of all the Yankee armies around Richmond was eighteen thousand, that being the proportion of native born and naturalized citizens of the United States, in the combined hosts of Ulysses Grant and Benjamin Franklin Butler.

* * * * *

"It is under the pressure of the practical want of arms bearing men, and in view of the fatal conclusion of an actual conscription, that the question has become uppermost in the Northern mind how long the South can endure the necessities of the war. This simple question of endurance has entirely superseded all other methods of the solution of all the former questions of foreign interferences, political revolutions, etc., and is to all Northern men who discern the signs of the times, the one practical test that is to determine the destiny of the South. The writer is fully assured that all intelligent men of the North, including even leading Black Republicans who have not hesitated to confess themselves, are agreed that the North will never stand an actual conscription, and that if the war is pushed to that point by unflagging resolution, and unbroken endurance on the part of the South, it is just there that it will break down by the weight of an insufferable burden put upon one of the belligerents."

THE CONFEDERACY AND MAXIMILLIAN.

A mutual exchange of courtesies has taken place between Gen. Mejia and Gen. Drayton and their officers. The following is a copy of the correspondence between the commanding officers, which shows the friendly sentiments towards the Confederate States by the imperial commander:

HDQR'S WESTERN SUB DISTRICT,
Brownsville, Sept. 28, 1864.

To the Captain General,
Thomas Mejia, commanding, &c.,

GENERAL: I have the honor of tendering to you my high consideration, and at the same time to express my gratification at your arrival off the Rio Grande, where now floats the flag of Empire, under whose folds we may expect that repose and security, so long denied to us, on account of the treacherous and unjustifiable warfare waged, in conjunction with the Yankees, against the Confederation by the former Provisional Governor of Tamaulipas, Gen Juan N. Cortinas.

But for the gallantry of our forces in repelling this combined attack, the Empire would at this time have had, upon the left bank of the river, bitter enemies instead of warm friends. To-morrow afternoon, at 4 o'clock, I will do myself the honor of calling upon you with my staff hoping by that time to find you in some measure relieved from the more pressing duties of your responsible position.

Permit me, General, to reiterate the assurances of my high consideration and respect.

(Signed) THOS. F. DRAYTON,
Brigadier General commanding.

HDQR'S IN MATAMORAS,
September 28, 1864.

[No. 578.]

GENERAL: I have received, at this instant, your congratulations for my arrival on the right shore of the Bravo, whither I have come to plant the standard of the Empire.

The political significance of this flag is known to you, General—it means peace and progress within my country, and friendly relations in the exterior; protection to commerce and industry; respect to property; and the most ample guarantees to the citizens of all countries who come to develope, in our territory, the fruits of their toil.

You can, therefore, rest as to the security which your fellow citizens will enjoy hereafter on the right bank of the river.

I shall deem it a great honor to receive you with your staff to-morrow at 4 o'clock in the evening, as you have been so kind as to propose, and, subsequently, I propose to reciprocate this your polite earnest of friendship.

Be pleased to accept, General, the assurance of my affectionate sentiments and most distinguished consideration.

The Commanding General of New Leon, Coahuila and Matamoras.

(Signed) THOMAS MEJIA.

A PREDICTION FULFILLED.

The following prophetic view of the destiny of America is so remarkable as to deserve reproduction at this time. It is from the "Life, etc, of Colonel George Hanger," written by himself. London, 1801:

"I shall here relate a conversation that took place one day at his table (this was Gen. Dickinson, of Philadelphia, brother to the well-known 'Pennsylvania Farmer,' and occurred soon after the peace of 1793) before a large company; and an opinion which I gave relative to the future destiny of the Government of that country; and I am of opinion that the state of affairs there is rapidly hastening a dissolution of the United States. At that time, when peace had been concluded but a few weeks, I was of that opinion; and remember well, when Gen. Dickinson asked me my opinion of the Government and its stability. I communicated my thoughts nearly in the following words: Sir, as long as General Washington, and the other principal military characters and leading men in Congress, who have brought about this revolution, are alive, the Government will remain as it is—united; but when all of you are in your graves, there will be wars and rumors of wars in this country. There are too many different interests in it for them to be united under one Government.

Just as this war commenced, you were going to fight among yourselves, and would have fought had not the British interfered. You then, one and all, united against us as your common enemy, but one of these days the Northern and Southern powers will fight as vigorously against each other as they both have united to do against the British. This country, when its population shall be completed, is large enough for three great empires. Look gentlemen, at this map of it.—View how irregularly the provinces are laid out, running into each other. Look particularly at the State of New York; it extends 150 miles in length due North; and in no place in breadth above fifteen or twenty miles. No country can be said to have a boundary or frontier unless its exterior limits are marked by an unfordable river, or a chain of mountains not to be passed out in particular places. The great finger of nature has distinctly pointed out three extensive boundaries to your country; the North River, the first; the Great Potomac, which runs three hundred miles from Alexandria to the sea, unfordable, the second; and the Mississippi, the third and last. When the country of Kentucky is completely settled, and that back country farther on to the banks of the Mississippi shall become populous and powerful, do you think they will ever be subjected to a Government seated at Philadelphia or New York, at the distance of so many hundred miles? But such a defection will not happen for a very long period of time, until the inhabitants of the country become numerous and powerful. The Northern and Southern powers will first divide, and contend in arms."

LIEUTENANT GENERAL TAYLOR.

The telegraph magnet announces that Gen Hood has been relieved at his own request, and that Lieut. Gen. Dick Taylor,

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEB. 2, 1865.

We cut the following account of circumstances connected with the fall of Fort Fisher from the Raleigh *Confederate*. It gives some new points and may tend to remove false impressions and correct injustice:

THE FALL OF FORT FISHER.

We have received the following account, from the lips of a gentleman who, we are sure, is as accurately informed concerning the late engagement between our forces and the enemy, at Fort Fisher, as any one.

The movement of the enemy was sudden, as we all know. After the previous failure, it was not anticipated that so quick a repetition of the effort would be made. Gen. Hoke had been withdrawn towards Wilmington, or above it. On Thursday, a Mr. McMillan—as our informant heard—discovered from near Topsail Sound, the approach of the enemy, and sought to communicate by telegraph to Gen. Bragg, the fact; but the operator was not in a condition to send the despatch, and it became necessary to transmit the news by a messenger. In two hours after the intelligence was received, Gen. Hoke was on the march to confront the enemy at his point of landing. On Friday, the enemy landed under cover of his fleet, near Battery Gatlin, about nine miles from Fort Fisher. While he was landing, Gen. Hoke appeared, and drew up in line parallel, to watch his movements, and intercept them when possible to do so. It was not possible to prevent the landing, owing to the situation of the point chosen. The enemy landed on the banks, just above the neck of the Sound, thus interposing a small surface of water between them and an attacking force; or compelling such force to circle around the lower extreme of the Sound; —either of which movements would have to be done under the fire of the whole fleet.

When Gen. Hoke found this to be the situation, he established a line facing the sea, and threw out what cavalry he required, (if he had it) on his right flank, towards Battery Anderson, which was down the beach, towards Fort Fisher—about four miles. The intervening country here is broken; and the low places are grown up with thick bushes, and are marshy. The purpose of this cavalry was to observe the movements, and give the signal of the first advance of the enemy towards establishing a line across the neck of land to the river, it being the order and purpose of General Bragg to have Gen. Hoke attack him as soon as he advanced. In this condition matters rested until Friday night. During the night, the enemy, passing between the cavalry, and threading their way through the thick marshy undergrowth, made their way to the river, and on Saturday morning, Gen. Hoke found an intrenched line on his right flank, extending across the peninsula, from the sea to, or near to, the river. He succeeded, however, in maintaining his base at Sugar Loaf, immediately changed his line, and informed Gen. Bragg of the status. Then Gen. Bragg gave the order to charge the enemy in their works. In the meantime, General Hoke had made a close reconnoisance, under the fire of the enemy, and discovered the strength of their force and position. On receiving the order to charge, he communicated the result of his observations, and asked Gen. Bragg to reconnoitre in person, which he did; and both these officers concurred that it was not proper to assault the lines. It was then determined to reinforce the fort, and steps were taken which, but for a natural, but as far as we can see, unblamable miscarriage, ought to have succeeded, failed to a great extent. By this time, therefore, four thousand strong, were secure behind their works, and the fleet proceeded to bombard Fort Fisher, which it was done uninterruptedly until Sunday, about six, p. m.

On Sunday, the column of assault, numbering about four thousand, moved from the enemy's lines, and as they advanced, they were plainly visible from Fort Fisher. But her meagre garrison was kept closely confined within the bomb proofs by the concentrated and continued fire of seven hundred guns pouring torrents of shell and missiles on every spot. On the land side of Fort Fisher, we had seventeen guns—sufficient, could they have been used, to make it impossible that any force could have advanced under their fire. But, as the line of assailants got nearer to the Fort, the whole fleet concentrated its fire, in richochet shot, on the land side, and speedily dismounted every gun; and this uninterrupted "*feu d'enfer*"—or in plain English —*hell fire*—was kept up until the enemy's line was in sixty yards of the works. Then it ceased, and with a rush and yell the charge was made. Capt. Braddy, it is said, commanded the company guarding the sally-port. On him the hope of the garrison hung, to keep the assailants out, until the men and officers, who had been packed in the bomb proofs for fifty-six hours, could get out and make ready. Instead of making defence, this officer and his command, it is said, surrendered and the enemy entered the open gate. Our men were benumbed and exhausted, and the thing was the work of a moment. They were obliged to fall back in order to rally. Col. Lamb, with that cool precision which distinguishes him as an officer of *great* merit, brought this men into the near Head Quarters, General Whiting being present, encouraging and cheering on the troops, and creating enthusiasm by his ardent and whole souled heroism. Under these inspiring influences, our men were brought to the charge. The numbers were against them in the proportion of four thousand aided by two thousand marines, to two thousand, but they forced the enemy back to the mound, and a hand to hand fight, of unmitigated desperation and fury, ensued, continuing from seven to about ten o'clock, when bravery, endurance and devotion failed to overcome numbers. Our men were overpowered, and the work of assault was accomplished. But not until the enemy had paid dearly for his prize. He had not lost a man until he entered the fort. He lost two thousand, out of the six thousand that entered its precincts—we five hundred. Of the courage of our officers and men on this occasion, its tongues will speak.

Foremost in that little band of noble heroes Whiting was everywhere where peril was most besetting. His voice cheered—his spirit animated—his arm struck down the foeman's flag. He put his life in the hollow of his hand, and held it out a free offering to his country. And he did this so gloriously, that whoever thinks of him in connection with this furious struggle, will yield to the gratification of being absorbed in contemplation of splendid courage, and will forget all else.

We are glad to learn that he is but slightly wounded, though in several places; and we mourn the fact, that that faithful and true officer, Colonel Lamb, is so severely injured. That he may be spared, and blessed with a speedy recovery, ought to be the prayer of all our people.

If there be any! It in this matter, we leave others to find it. However great our loss, and sad our disappointment, we feel only like re-echoing the just sentiment of the *Conservative*—"All honor to the noble defenders of Fort Fisher, if they did not overcome a frightful odds, which mortals could not do."

Resolution 1st. Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That neither the above proposition (reunion with guarantee of slavery) nor any other can be made to the people of this State by the United States or any other foreign people, the Government of the Confederate States being the only organ of the States in the Confederacy for the transaction of business with foreign nations, and such propositions, if made at all, must be made to the Government of the Confederate States, and, if made of the Government of this State, will not be entertained.

Resolution 2d. That we recognize in that peace proposition no good faith, but merely an insidious policy to "divide and conquer," a policy through which it is hoped to detach some of the States from the Confederacy, thereby to weaken and demoralize the rest. To accomplish this, an appeal is made to our love of property, which, as it is the all-prevailing motive to the actions of the people of the North, they supposed would control our conduct.

Resolution 3d. That it will be well for the people of the North to understand, even at this late day, that the Southern States did not secede from the Union upon any question such as the mere preservation of the slave property of their citizens. But that, being free and sovereign States, they were resolved to preserve their freedom and their sovereignty. They were free to govern themselves as they and not others, saw fit. They were free to change their government, to erect a new one, and make whatever alliances they should choose. And after nearly four years of arduous war, these States are still unwavering in their resolution to preserve their freedom and their sovereignty, without which all else is valueless.

Resolution 7th. We declare that we are earnestly desirous of peace, but we say no less distinctly that it must be coupled with our independence. And if the people of the United States be really disposed to terminate the war, they will best prove that disposition by making their proposition to the Government of the Confederate States, which alone can entertain it.

In the fall of Fort Fisher the troops of the Confederacy have lost a work, but not their honor. North Carolina, in particular, has reason to be proud of the prowess of her sons. This is not the first, the second, nor even the fiftieth time, that the soldiers of that State have proved the mettle whereof they are made. There are no better soldiers in the Confederacy or the world. There is very little gas or humbug about North Carolina; but, at the pinch of the bill, she is always strong and true. We have no words to express our admiration of the stern and steadfast heroism she has exhibited in this war. *Richmond Dispatch, 24th inst.*

TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863 by J. S. THRASHER in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FIFTY THIRD VIRGINIA REGIMENT

RICHMOND Jan. 27th, 1865.

The fifty third Virginia regiment, of Pickett's division, has unanimously adopted a series of resolutions, declaring their purpose to fight for liberty and self government so long as the Southern Confederacy can furnish a cartridge; and to every dishonorable offer of peace and submission made by the enemy they will reply with the crack of rifles and shouts of defiance.

The last resolution reads: These are our sentiments, and we call upon the people at home and the authorities to support and rally around us, and, with God's blessing, we will bear the Southern cross through fire and blood until each star upon it shall glow and shine forever in the firmament of nations.

CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27th, 1865.

The most important business done in the House to-day was the consideration of the Senate bill to provide for the employment of free negroes and slaves on fortifications, &c. Mr. Ramsay moved a proviso that said slaves shall not be armed or used as soldiers. Mr. Miles supported the amendment; he was utterly opposed to arming our slaves. In the midst of his remarks the House sustained the motion to transfer the bill to the secret calendar, and then resolved itself into secret session.

The Senate concurred in the House joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Williams, and passed with amendments the House bill to increase the efficiency of the cavalry. Also passed another bill to increase the number of acting midshipmen in the navy, the provisions of which are intended to obviate the objections of the President to the bill recently vetoed.

Mr. Wigfall introduced a resolution directing [repeal?] all laws authorizing impressment of property for the use of the army, except by military officers in case of absolute necessity, which after a long debate, was adopted.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27th, 1865.

Twenty-five surgeons and assistant Surgeons, captured at Franklin and vicinity, arrived here last night from Varina.

Mr. Seddon continues to act as Secretary of War. The position was certainly tendered to Gen. Breckenridge.

There are no reliable developments relative to Blair's mission, though it is generally supposed that he proposed a re-union on such terms as the Confederate authorities might submit.

NORTHERN NEWS—BLAIR'S MISSION TO RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27th, 1865.

The Baltimore American (evening edition) of the 23d inst., has been received. It contains very little of interest.

Gold at the first board, in New York, was quoted at 200¾.

Gen. Grant was in Washington on Saturday.

A letter received from Philadelphia says, that Blair had full authority from Lincoln to give safe conduct to Washington for peace commissioners from President Davis.

The National Intelligencer's announcement of Blair's second visit to Richmond, says: We have good reason, not to say authority, for stating that Blair goes to Richmond upon no hollow or heartless mission, but upon one of substance; giving hope to the patriotic that an opportunity for the highest reason, will be afforded to statesmen to bring the present civil war to a close by negotiation.

The Herald says that Seward has had no recent relations with the managers of this interregnum.

FROM CHARLESTON—YANKEE GUNBOAT DESTROYED.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 27th, 1865.

The Yankee gunboat Dandelion got aground in the Combahee river yesterday. Our batteries opened on her and set her on fire. She burned to the water's edge. All of her crew, excepting a Lieutenant and five men, escaped. The prisoners were brought to the city to-day. They report that the Monitor which was sunk off Sullivan's Island recently by a torpedo was the Patapsco. Only five out of her crew of three hundred, were saved. All the rest were drowned.

Nothing important from below.

CHANGE IN THE COMMAND OF THE SECOND CORPS.

A letter from General Lee's army announces that Major General Gordon has been placed in command of the Second corps, lately commanded by Lieutenant-General Early. He issued an address to the troops upon taking command.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

No appointment has yet been made to the office of Secretary of War; indeed, the office cannot be said to be yet vacant, as Mr. Seddon's resignation has not been accepted. Among the gentlemen named to succeed Mr. Seddon is Governor Letcher, of Virginia.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

It was reported yesterday that the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State, had sent in his resignation. We think this is true, though we have no positive information on the subject.

Mr. Blair, Peace Commissioner—His movements.

It was said yesterday that Mr. F. P. Blair, the venerable white-winged harbinger of peace, had left town, before breakfast, on his way back to the mind of Lincoln. Though we were not regaled with a glimpse of the old gentleman in any of the public places, and heard of no dear friends of former years shaking hands with him at the President's house or elsewhere, we do not believe that he has left us. He would not have come so far to have staid so short a time. We have no doubt that he visited the President yesterday; but have heard nothing of the interview.

RECOGNITION.

A report is being circulated that France and England intend, after the 4th of March next, to recognize Lincoln as the President of the Northern States and to recognize the South as an independent nation. This is founded on a Paris letter, published in the Northern papers two weeks ago. Paris newspaper correspondents notoriously draw upon their imaginations for their facts.

THE EXEMPTION BILL.

The House of Representatives, on yesterday, passed an exemption bill, which provides radical changes in the present exemption law. It repeals absolutely the fifteen-negro law; provides that no mail Contractor under forty-five years of age shall be exempt, and limits the power of detail hitherto vested in the hands of the President and Secretary of War. We have no reason to believe the bill, in its present form, will pass the Senate. The sense of the Senate, as recently incidentally expressed in debate, is in favor of leaving untouched the exemption law now in force.

Richmond Dispatch, 24th inst.

The New York News, speaking of the abolition party, says:

We cannot conceive in what manner these red hot fanatics would have the South approach our government. Do they expect that a people that have manfully stood up for four years against the unparalleled might of our armies and navies will crawl upon their knees to the White House, and with "bated breath and whispered humbleness" beseech permission to enter the Union, stripped of their property and despoiled of their political rights? The extravagance of hate and bitterness that prompts such opposition to the very first step of compromise must be subdued, or there will never be peace between the sections. We believe that there exists to-day a disposition among many of the leading men North and South to test the virtue of negotiation; for the sake of our reputation as civilized beings, let the attempt be made.

An exchange tells the following anecdote of John Phœnix:

A little characteristic specimen of Phœnix's love of fun occurred at West Point on the occasion of a lecture upon astronomy. The lecturer was in the habit of assuming that all his students were totally ignorant of the very first principles of any particular branch of science which he might be discussing. It happened on a certain evening that he was lecturing upon the Moon, and Phœnix, who was at the head of his class, with two or three others, were determined to balk the Professor in his style of teaching. So he began:

"Gentlemen, our lecture this evening is upon the Moon, one of the most interesting subjects," etc.—"You have all seen the MOON!"

"No," said Phœnix, "I have never seen it."

"What!" said the Professor, "never seen the moon?"

"No," the first members of the class declared they had never seen the planet, and persisted in the expression of their perfect ignorance of its character.

The "premises" of the Professor were removed, his "base line" was gone, and he collapsed into utter confusion.

THE FACTS OF HOOD'S RETREAT—THE LYING YANKEE BULLETINS.

The Washington correspondent of the New York News exposes the lies indulged in by Tomas in reference to Hood's retrograde movement to the Tennessee river, and shows how, instead of being pressed by Thomas in that movement, the Confederate General carried it out leisurely and without any peril to his army. This completes the circle of evidence that the statements of the Yankee Generals and presses as to Hood's loss, and the demoralization of his army, were false. They are disproved by witnesses on both sides. Hood *just* missed doing a great thing, but he missed it. We see *now*, that had he been content with taking Chattanooga and Knoxville, and opening communications with Richmond by the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, and kept his army in a position from which he might have operated against Sherman in his advance against Savannah—it would have been safer for his army and better for his country. Let us be glad and thankful that his losses fall short of the reports, and that valuable service may still be expected of his army. The correspondent says:

The war men are not half satisfied with the news from the Southwest. Much to their disappointment Hood declined to have his army smashed to atoms, and the mortification consequent on the non-fulfillment of the sanguinary predictions telegraphed from Nashville is so keenly felt by them that they stand abashed before the array of facts which can be no longer concealed.—Hood's army was not in the slightest danger after the third day of the battle before Nashville. His retreat was conducted in the most perfect order. Thomas followed him to Duck river, and then had to wait two days for his pontoons, which, through some blunder, had been ordered to Murfreesboro. When the pontoons arrived Hood was near the Tennessee, leisurely making preparations to cross. When Thomas got his army across Duck river he pushed forward as rapidly as the condition of the roads would admit, but when he reached the Tennessee the main part of the army was safe on the other side. Forrest's cavalry covered the crossings and held Thomas in check until all Hood's infantry reached the south side.

Thomas' advance made several attempts to harrass the Confederates while crossing the river, but Forrest followed him in every instance. Not a shot could reach the pontoons, and where the infantry and artillery were sadly transported to the south side. Forrest went on leisurely, and left the Federal army powerless on the north back of the river. He had to abandon some wagons, however, owing to the impossibility of extricating them from the deep mud; but these comprised the only point of the "pursuit" to Tennessee. The facts now known, and which were heretofore considered, fully confirm the views so often expressed in the *News*, that the disaster to the Confederate army before Nashville was not half so great as it was represented by those who concocted telegrams to that city, and sent them broadcast over the country; and that the pretended vigorous pursuit was in reality but a fraud. I discredited the assurance that Hood could not escape, that his army was demoralized, that it would be captured or annihilated, that his pontoons were all destroyed, and that his retreat was intercepted; and the *News* was portion correct in counselling its readers not to give credence to any of these assertions.

Hood's army reached the Tennessee on the 221 of December, and proceeded without any difficulty to cross to the south side. Admiral Lee ascended to near Florence on the 24th, and reported the enemy crossing at the shoals, but far beyond the range of his gunboats. With the Federal army on his rear and the Federal fleet on his flank, Hood pushed forward, and by the 26th had carried his command out of all danger.—When last heard from he was safe at Corinth, his army was in good condition, and he was engaged repairing the Mobile and Ohio railroad. What have the authors of the Nashville sensation telegrams to say for themselves, now that their infamous attempts to deceive the country, by flooding it with false dispatches are exposed?

The Richmond Examiner thus relates the latest experience of Mr. Edward A. Pollard while under Yankee durance. The article concludes with some interesting results of that gentleman's observations at the North. Mr. Pollard reported at Fortress Monroe on the 10th November last for exchange, and without any known cause, was placed there in solitary confinement in a guard box, where he lived for some weeks without space to walk in, and sheltered from the weather only by a shell of boards, ventilated through seams half an inch wide. This was in consequence of a direct order from Secretary Stanton, who, in this instance as in others of the oppression of our prisoners, is directly and personally responsible. Strange to say, Butler relieved Mr. Pollard from a situation in which Mr. P. says that an officer of the guard at Fortress Monroe declared that a man could not reasonably be expected to survive for two weeks.

As it is the last act which Butler can probably ever do to a Confederate prisoner, it may be mentioned for his benefit. For we learn from Mr. Pollard that on Sunday last, Gen. Butler was removed, not only from the command of the army of the James, but from all other command, and ordered by the Adjutant-General at Washington to report himself at Lowell, Massachusetts, which is his residence. The terms of this order were construed to the effect that B. F. B. had been removed to disgrace. Maj. Gen. Ord takes command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina; but this is supposed to be only an arrangement *ad interim*. In any event, Butler is shelved for the war, and it is thought a not improbable consequence that we may next hear of that individual declaring a war against the politicians in Washington.

During Mr. Pollard's term as a prisoner—eight months—he had an interval of parole on account of his health, in which he had opportunities of visiting many of the Northern cities—New York, Boston, Brooklyn, Baltimore, &c., and thus gathering much of the true public sentiment and political designs of the North. He says generally, that while there is not the least hope for the South in any present political organization in the North, there are grounds of encouragement in the military situation of which the people of the Confederacy have nothing like adequate ideas; that the military resources of the North, although superabundant and impressing at the first view, are not practically available, and are fast being contracted by certain moral forces which the newspapers do not take into their calculation; that their system of draft, hitherto patched up by foreign enlistment, negro enlistment and bounties, is nearly at the point of exhaustion; that the draft of last summer for 500,000 men, furnished but 70,000 effectives; that the expedient of bounties cannot be carried much further, some counties having already been taxed on this score actually in excess of the value of all the real and personal property within their limits, some, for instance, in New York State having accumulated a debt of a million and a half of dollars on the single account of military largesses; and that, finally, all intelligent men in the North are given to the opinion that when the necessities of the war are pushed to the point of an enforced draft, of an actual conscription, that it is precisely at that period and precisely from that cause that the war will and must break down. Thus the conclusion may be drawn that independence of the Confederacy is to be achieved more surely by the sheer force of endurance than by anything else, and that even if we should fail to accomplish it by the signal strokes of military fortune, it will be worked out at the last, and that much more speedily than is generally supposed, by a simple competition of the real resolution of the South with a confidence in the North, now bloated and swaggering, but really on the verge of the last and fatal necessity—which is not finances, not political revolutions, or any of that bosh of the prophets of peace, but simply conscription.

THE CONTINENT AN ICEBERG.—Prof. Agassiz, in the ATLANTIC MONTHLY, comes to the conclusion that the continent of North America was at one time covered with ice a mile in thickness—The proof is that the slopes of the Alleghany range of mountains are glacier worn on the very top, except a few points which were above the icy mass. Mount Washington, for instance, is over six hundred feet high, and the rough, unpolished surface of its summits, covered with loose fragments, just below the level at which glacier marks come to an end, tell us that it lifted its head alone above the desolate waste of ice and snow. In this region, then, the thickness of the sheet cannot have been much less than six thousand feet, and this is in keeping with the same kind of evidence in other parts of the country, for wherever the mountains are much below six thousand feet the ice seems to have passed directly over them, while the few peaks rising on the hights are left untouched. The glacier, he argues was God's great plough, and when the ice vanished from the face of the land, it left it prepared for the hand of the husbandman. The hard surface of the rocks was ground to powder, the elements of the soil were mingled in fair proportions; granite was carried into the lime regions, lime was mingled with the more arid and unproductive districts, and a soil was prepared fit for the agricultural uses of man. There are evidences all over the polar regions to show that at one period the heat of the tropics extended all over the globe. The ice period is supposed to be subsequent to this, and next to last before the advent of this earth.

GREELY wrote in 1860: "If the cotton States unitedly and earnestly wish to withdraw from the Union we think they should and would be allowed to do so. Any attempt to compel them by force to remain would be contrary to the principles enunciated in the immortal Declaration of Independence; contrary to the fundamental ideas on which human liberty is based." Gen. Scott wrote to Mr. Seward: "A debt of $250,000,000 (it is long gone over $1,000 000,000) and fifteen devastated provinces to be brought in harmony with their conquerors, but to be held by heavy garrisons for generations at an expense quadruple the taxes it would be possible to extort, followed by a Protector or Emperor, to that I would prefer to say to the Southern States, 'Wayward sisters, depart in peace.'" John Quincy Adams, long ago foreshadowing the probable contingency, said: "Far better will it be for the people of the dis-United States to part in friendship from each other, than to be held together by restraint."

Taking the Oath.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a private letter. It is one of the best and briefest disquisitions upon the nature and obligations of an oath that we have ever seen:

"If a man really prefers the United States to the Confederate, he may take the oath and then reside here as an enemy, but if, on the contrary, he regards this as his country, no temptation, however strong, should make him renounce a sentiment that next to allegiance to God is the most sacred. There are some who hold that these oaths, being extorted by force, are not binding. But they are not extorted. To be sure the alternative is presented of the oath or confiscation, but this is the nature of all temptation, to sacrifice truth and righteousness for some temporary or secular advantage. In the very terms of the oath the juror swears that he does so voluntarily and without mental reservation.

There is no essential difference between taking a false oath to obtain money and taking one to retain it. One of the characteristics of the righteous man in the 15th Psalm is: He sweareth to his own heart and changeth not, and one of the dangers of worldly prosperity is pointed out in Timothy: "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition, for the love of money is the root of all evil, which, while some coveted after they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. The martyr might, with just as much propriety, have openly renounced the Gospel whilst at the same time he secretly believed it to be true, when threatened not merely with the loss of property but with death. But this refuge was forbidden him. "Whosoever denieth me *before men*, him will I also deny, etc." In no case are we permitted to do evil that good may come. To secure the desired end of this contest, as the soldier must not desert to the enemy, neither must those that remain at home. If we are all true to the end we will be saved. If no *radical walls* are subjugated, the country never will be, and surely, fidelity to those who have already sacrificed their lives, requires of us, if necessary, to sacrifice our fortunes.

R. C. K.

WHO WOULD GO BACK.—The Selma (Ala.) "Rebel" thus plainly describes the spirit of the miserable party who at this stage of the war are willing to give up the contest:

They are prepared for the restoration of that rule which four years ago had become hateful, and which we have shed so much blood and made so many sacrifices to cast aside. They are ready to forget the perfidious conduct of the Northern people, while we were associated with them; their disregard of constitutional obligations and sacred compacts; their gasping avarice; their thieving propensities; their unceasing meddling with our institutions before the war; and the cold blooded, barbarous and unmanly traits they have exhibited since hostilities commenced, and swear the oath of fealty and allegiance to those whose garments are dripping with the blood of our fathers and brothers slain in resisting their monstrous and insolent effort to trample us in the dust of humiliation and subjection. They would forget the burning wrongs we have suffered, the outrages our enemies have perpetrated, the remorseless and barbarous cruelty they have practiced upon the helpless and unoffending, our country desolated, and our land dotted with the graves of our fallen heroes, to procure for themselves an ignoble and pusillanimous exemption from the hardships, the dangers and sacrifices incident to the persistent and determined prosecution of the war.

Some of the papers in South Carolina have announced that President Davis has written to citizens of that State, saying that he will take care of South Carolina and do all he can to defend her from the enemy. We have no doubt that the President is disposed to do all he can to drive back Sherman and his army, but he cannot save South Carolina from ruin unless the people of that State assist, and assist with all their might.—If *they* remain at home and attend to their own private affairs, and expect the President to drive Sherman back, they will find themselves wofully mistaken. The people of Georgia, to a great extent, gave all their attention to their own pecuniary affairs and allowed Sherman to march through their State, and then turned about and censured President Davis for it! A better course is expected from the people of South Carolina. It is expected that every man in the State will turn out to meet the foe, and fight to the death or conquer.

N. C. BONDS.—We learn that the recent advertisement of our State Treasurer for the purchase of State bonds resulted as follows: The various bids ranged from par to 121 premium—that the large bidding was at a premium of 103. The Treasurer, however, in accordance with the reservation of a right to do so, which he had wisely made, rejected all the bids. He has since sold about $150,000 of bonds at from 150 to 175 premium; and about $300,000 at a premium of 200.—We further learn that he has declined making any additional sales, until it shall be seen whether the five or six millions due the State from the Confederate States Government, chiefly for clothing to our troops, shall be paid.—*Ral. Conservative.*

A parsimonious sea captain, answering the complaints of his men that the bread was bad, exclaimed: "What? complain of your bread that is made from flour? What do you think of the Apostles? They ate "shew bread," made from old boots and shoes."

Messrs. Editors:—

I have seen in both the *Journal* and *Carolinian*, articles headed "Have we a Relief Association." That institution was re-organized, I think, in October last, by a town meeting, and a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Purchasing Committee, Ward Committees, and a Committee to purchase wood were appointed. A Store was rented and a store keeper appointed. Since then all the funds paid to the Treasurer, by the town and other contributions have been invested in provisions and wood, and delivered to the necessitious upon the order of Committees. Much good has been accomplished and especially by the supply of wood. As soon as possible, a statement will be published showing the number of persons supplied, and an account exhibiting the receipts and how disbursed. The principal amount received, was from the Mayor, two sums of $25,-000 each have been paid by him. The public may rest assured that the gentlemen in charge will expend all the money that the Mayor and other parties may pay to the Treasurer of the Association. The scarcity of provisions and depreciated currency renders it very difficult to make purchases. All citizens, therefore, will confer a favor by giving notice of articles for sale, and all should donate as liberally as they can of money or provisions—the latter preferred. This work has to be met by the authorities and citizens conseurently, or much suffering, yea, starvation will result. One hundred thousand dollars sounds largely, and stress is laid on the fact that the town voted so liberally. What amount of supplies will it furnish—how long will it last?

If Col. Burr will detail two good men to travel and purchase provisions, and when they are not so employed, to aid the Ward Committees and Store-keeper, so that the worthy only may be supplied, he will do a good act. It is well known that persons who have private affairs to attend to, cannot do full justice to an association of this kind, in a time like this, and as this is a work of necessity and must be attended to, it is apparent that the aid suggested would be a public benefit.

These crude remarks are written for general information and to elicit attention to the subject.

S. D. WALLACE,
President Relief Association.

☞ Since writing the above article, I have received the following from the Store-keeper, which please append:

278 families, 918 persons, supplied from October 18th, 1864, to Jan. 10th, 1865, with 642 lbs. meat, 10 836 lbs rice, 6 244 lbs. flour, 31,646 lbs corn meal 746 lbs. salt, 426 lbs peas, 9 bushels potatoes, 27 loaves bread.

Value of the above,.....$37,215 00

Sold during the same period, 913 lbs meat, 1,470 lbs. rice, 1,204 lbs. flour, 11,186 lbs. meal, 91 lbs. salt, 41 bush. potatoes.

Valued at.....$13,562 00

S. D. WALLACE.

FROM THE ROAD.—The enemy moved a large body of troops from Savannah on the Augusta road Wednesday morning. The objects of this movement was not ascertained at last accounts.

Our scouts also report the enemy withdrawing their forces a short distance from their position near Pocotaligo. All was quiet at other points on the line.

Charleston Courier, 26 inst.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

JANUARY 23d, 1865.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the House consolidation bill.

On the previous day, Senate substitute for this bill had been adopted.

On motion, by Mr. Baker, the vote adopting the substitute was reconsidered, and after various additional amendments to the substitute, it was again adopted in the following form:

"A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSOLIDATION OF COMPANIES, BATTALIONS AND REGIMENTS.

"*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That whenever any companies which are now in the service shall be so reduced as to number less than thirty-two men, rank and file, present and for duty, and when it shall be proved, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of War, or of the general commanding the department or the army in which said companies may be serving, that they cannot be recruited to that number within a reasonable time, the general commanding said department or army may, under general regulations to be issued by the Secretary of War, consolidate such companies.

"Section 2. That new companies may be organized from the non-commissioned officers and privates of the companies thus consolidated, if they are from the same State, having the number, rank and file now fixed by law; and the commissioned officers of said companies thus organized shall be one captain and one first and one second lieutenant; and the non-commissioned officers, four sergeants and four corporals.

"Section 3. That companies, if they are from the same State, may be organized into battalions and regiments; and the officers for companies battalions and regiments shall be immediately designated and placed on duty by the general commanding the department or the army in which the companies before consolidation may have been serving. Officers thus designated shall continue to serve until officers shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and all selections of officers made by the general to command said new organizations, or appointments by the President therefor as herein provided, shall be from the commissioned officers of the companies, battalions or regiments from which the new organizations were formed, or from such non-commissioned officers or privates therefor as may have been distinguished for meritorious and soldierly conduct, or for valor or skill; and the certificate of the colonel commanding the battalion or regiment in which said non-commissioned officers or privates may have served; that they have been so distinguished, it approved by the brigade and division commanders, shall be sufficient proof thereof.

"Section 4. That officers of the companies, battalions and regiments which may be disbanded, as herein provided, and who may not be selected and appointed as required by this act, shall be dropped from the rolls as supernumerary officers; but such officers may, within a reasonable time, to be fixed by General Orders to be issued by the Secretary of War, as to troops in the States east of the Mississippi river, and by the general commanding the department west of the Mississippi river as to troops therein, organize themselves into companies, battalions and regiments, the officers to which shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, or said officers may volunteer into any company belonging to the department in which they last served, or to the State from which the company or regiment to which the said officers belonged may have come, of any arm of the service; and all officers who may, within thirty days after the date of the order consolidating the company, battalion or regiment to which he may have belonged, volunteer and enlist in such new organizations or in other companies, as authorized herein, shall receive from the time they were dropped as supernumeraries, for twelve months, pay at the rate their grade entitles them to at the time they were so dropped."

"Section 5. That hereafter all vacancies in the offices of 2d section be filled by selection, in the manner pointed out by the 3d section of this act; and all officers who may have belonged to the consolidated organizations, and who may be appointed to the same grade in the new which they held in the old organizations, shall take rank from the date of their first commission or appointment; and, hereafter, should the new companies organized under the provisions of this act become reduced in number so as to have less than thirty-two men, rank and file, present and fit for duty, and a vacancy should occur in the office of second lieutenant, the same shall not be filled; and should it be reduced below the number of sixteen, then a vacancy in the office of first lieutenant shall not be filled.

"Section 6. That the offices of adjutants and cadjuts of battalions and regiments are hereby abolished, and hereafter the officer commanding a battalion or regiment may assign any subaltern of the line, belonging to his command, to serve as adjutant, and such subaltern, while so serving, shall receive, in addition to his pay and allowances, thirty dollars per month; and the officer commanding shall also assign, to act as color-bearer, a non-commissioned officer or private from his command who may be distinguished for meritorious or soldierly conduct, or for valor or skill, and said non-commissioned officer or private, while so acting, shall receive the pay of a first lieutenant.

"Section 7. The names of battalions and regiments organized under the provisions of this act shall be the names of the old battalions and regiments from which the new were formed; and the colors of the oldest battalion or regiment forming the new shall be the colors of the new organization, and the colors of the other battalions and regiments shall be transmitted, by the secretary of War, to the Governors of the respective States, with a statement of the battles in which the battalion or regiment to which they belong have borne a part.

"Section 8. That all staff, line and other officers who may not have any command, or who may not at any time be on duty for a period exceeding thirty days, unless they belong to the invalid corps, or are prisoners of war, or are sick or wounded, or absent by leave of the Secretary of War or the general commanding the department or army to which they belong, shall be dropped from the rolls and held to service as now provided by law: Provided, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to assign any officer thrown out of command by the operation of this act to vacancies in the staff, with the rank held by them in the line.

"Section 9. Prisoners of war may, within sixty days after their exchange, avail themselves of the provisions of the fourth section of this act; and hereafter when commissioned officers of companies, battalions or regiments may be captured by the enemy, the general commanding the department or army to which they belong may designate, or the President may appoint, other officers to fill their places, as provided in this act, to serve with temporary rank and command, to be held only until the return of said officers so captured.

"Section 10. When regiments, battalions or companies shall have been consolidated under the provisions of this act, no subsequent consolidation of the same shall be made unless by virtue of laws hereafter to be passed.

FOREIGN EXTRACTS.

M. MERCIER INSTRUCTED BY NAPOLEON ON THE ITALIAN QUESTION

The Europe, of Paris, gives, as an extract from a dispatch of one of the ambassadors accredited at the court of St. Cloud, the substance of a conversation said to have taken place between the Emperor Napoleon and M. Mercier, late French Minister in Washington and the now ambassador to Spain.

The Emperor having expressed his sentiments respecting Queen Isabella and Spain, M. Mercier is said to have asked that if he should find in Spain the opinion which appears to be generally entertained in France, namely, that Florence would be only the provisionary capital of Italy pending the acquisition of Rome, what was he to reply? The Emperor, says the Europe, answered: "Say that, for my own part, Florence is the definitive capital of Italy."

As the Emperor is not used to express himself quite so explicitly, the public will, of course, take this report with all reserve. The "communications" of the Europe, however, seem to be generally very well informed, and that they sometimes give uneasiness in high quarters is signified in the fact that lately the paper has been seized in Paris by order of the Minister of the Interior.

THE POLISH REVOLUTION—LAST REPORTS OF THE PATRIOTS.

The Russian Government of Oranbourg, Simabrisk, Saratow, Samaria, Kozan, etc., are suffering dreadfully from incendiary fires. These Governments have been lately selected for the residence of a great number of Poles condemned by the severity of the law in Poland. It appears from an article in the Botschafter, of Vienna, that in some towns the fires have been attributed to these unfortunate people. Many have perished as victims of the exasperation of the masses; and, far from seeking to suppress this outbreak of popular passion, some Russian journals, including the Invalide, an official journal, and the Moscow Gazette, the most widely circulated journal in Russia, echo these accusations, and add to them insinuations adapted to excite still further the passion of the multitude. Nothing has transpired thus far to give the least appearance or foundation to these charges, while on the other hand, numerous facts seem to disprove them in a manner most honorable to the Poles.

Thus the Northern Post of the 7th of October states that after the fire at Oranbourg, the Poles living in the Government of that name hastened to send to the people deprived of shelter and means of subsistence two carts filled with bread, gruel and salt. Some days before, the head of the police at Oranbourg, Col. Michel Fedorow, bore striking testimony in favor of the Poles.

THE JAPAN DIFFICULTY.

Official advices of October 28th, from Yokuhama, confirm the report of the opening of the inland sea of Japan by the allied fleet. The engagement was brief. The allies lost 12 killed and 54 wounded: the Japanese 200 to 300 killed and wounded. The steamer Sea King, chartered by Minister Pruyn to accompany the fleet to represent the United States, did good execution with her 32-pounder Parrot guns. She was afterwards sold to the Japanese Government for $108,000. The indemnity to the Americans is expected to reach $200,-000. The commissioners of the allies were to meet the Japanese officers at Kanagawa on October 19, to adjust the amounts of the indemnities to the various nations. The forts are to be dismantled and the fleet will remain to see that the Tycoon keeps his promise. It is believed that the Japanese Government will henceforth be able to keep the unruly noble in check.

From the Columbus Times.

"THE SAVANNAH TRAITOROUS."

MR. EDITOR:—The proceedings of a "citizens' meeting" held at Savannah, and copied in the columns of your paper of the 9th, has filled the minds of all true men throughout the State with profound indignation. Had these recreant creatures spoken for themselves and their posterity, we should have felt mortified at their self-imposed degradation, and pitied the lack of that manly courage which would have enabled them to pass through the fiery furnace—the ordeal which proves and tempers the soul of every patriot—unscathed. But when these men attempt to speak for the people of Savannah in full meeting assembled—when they attemp